



Nuneaton's Footballing Heritage

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2

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Nuneaton Town Stars Leave For Blackpool

George Naylor, Nuneaton Town's centre-forward of the past season, and who had 54 goals to his credit, and Harold Pearson, the goalkeeper, have both signed for Blackpool, the Second Division club, for next season. Along with the other Town players, Naylor and Pearson were offered terms by the directors to remain with the Nuneaton club, but did not accept, though most of the players did.

It is understood that Blackpool have promised to give the Nuneaton club some material assistance in consideration of obtaining the two players.

New Centre-Half for Town FC

Nuneaton Town FC have secured the services of Bob Trew, late of Redditch FC.

Trew took part in the practice match at Manor Park on Saturday, and gave an outstanding display. The directors obtained his signature after the match.

He has had four and a half years experience in the Birmingham League and is a utility player, able to fill any place in the half-back or forward line. He stands 5ft 9in, and weighs 11 stone 8lbs.

Two Goalkeepers Signed

Nuneaton Town have signed on Jack Thomson, a goalkeeper, who has played with Partick Thistle, Coventry City and Plymouth Argyle. He is 27 years of age, 12 stone, 6ft and has had eight years' experience in first class football. Last season he played with New York City, USA.

The Directors have also signed up Lilley, who last season kept goal for Atherstone.

A number of these players have been selected for the two sides which will appear in the first trial game at Manor Park on Saturday.

Reds: J. L. Thomson (goal); Ward and Cashmore (backs); Johnson, Black and Rollason (half-backs); Barratt, Pearce, Tuckley, Whitfield, Hurst, Bright (forwards selected from).

Whites: Richardson (goal); Lee and Page (backs); Jones, Medhurst and Brookes (half-backs); Brindley, Pearson, Hatton, L. Turner, J. Harris and Holden (forwards selected from).

Final Trial Game

Considering the weather, there was a good attendance at Nuneaton Town's final practice match, played at Manor Park.

The play was much improved on the previous week, although the ground was in no fit state. Despite this, the game was of all-round excellence and some clever football was seen.

Reds: Thomson; Lee and Page; Starling, Medhurst and Brookes; Cooper, Dommett, Hatton, Turner and Bright.

Whites: Lilley; Ward and Hudson; Johnson, Trew and Darlison; Gunn, Whitfield, Brindley, Hurst and Harris.

The Whites were the most aggressive from the start, but could not penetrate the opposing defence, until, following a header by Gunn, Brindley headed in after Thomson had run out and missed. Both left wings were conspicuous, especially the Whites, Hurst and Harris, who kept Lee and Starling continually on the alert. The combination of this wing pair was particularly good. Harris' centres were without fault.

The Whites added to their score through Whitfield, who netted with a well directed long range shot. Thomson found it impossible to save. Although nothing outstanding characterised this first half, the play was of such a nature as to repeatedly draw forth applause from the spectators. Harris was perhaps the most noticeable player on the field, his clever movement and splendid centring being particularly prominent. Brindley, at centre-forward, played an excellent game, the feature of his play being his keenness and clever passing movements. Whites led 2-0 at the break.

A completely re-organised team appeared for the second half. A noticeable absentee was "Rabbit" Johnson. Taken on the whole, the second half was not quite as interesting as the first. Play took place mostly in the Whites' half, but the attacking forward line could not score, mainly owing to lack of finishing power. The only goal of the half was credited to

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Trial Match Preview

A large number of applications for admission to the Town Football Club have been received from amateur players in the Coventry, Leamington and Birmingham Districts.

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the Whites' Gunn, who scored with a terrific drive from short range after Morgan had partly cleared.

Trew was an outstanding player during the second half and was continually keeping his forwards well supplied. He was an exceedingly hard worker and on numerous occasions was the initiator of good movements. Hudson at left-back, a local product of the Sunday School League, was disappointing. His clearing was faulty, as also was his attacking, although during the second half he improved greatly.

Darlison, a left-back, was a prominent player, his neat and clever movements being particularly noticeable. Against Birmingham next week, the Town should be able to field a strong side, and one that should gain the full two points.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City A 31-08-1929

Nuneaton: Thomson; Lee and Page; Starling, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Trew, Tuckley, Whitfield and Bright.

Birmingham A: Slater; Booton and Bennett; Lakin, Place and Wallington; Burke, Merfitt, Cooper, Robinson and Hutchinson.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham City A to Manor Park for the first Birmingham Combination match of the 1929-30 season. There was a crowd of about 2,500. The state of the pitch was not conducive to good football, due to heavy rain.

Birmingham were first to attack, but Lee cleared. The visitors' approach work was good, but their finishing was not up to scratch in the early stages and Thomson had an easy time in the Nuneaton goal. Lee and Page were responsible for a number of Birmingham attacks being repulsed.

Nuneaton's approach lacked cohesion and only Whitfield looked threatening for the home side. He was a constant source of danger to the Birmingham defence and shot frequently and accurately. The home attackers were not receiving much support from the half-back line as they were pushed back too far, and too often, their passes went astray. Birmingham scored first, 25 minutes after the start, Cooper netting with little difficulty after he had forcibly pushed Lee off the ball.

Nuneaton forced the pace and grabbed an equaliser four minutes later, when Tuckley converted a penalty kick. Both goals had some narrow escapes, but both keepers, Thomson and Slater, were equal to the occasion and at half-time the scores were tied at 1-1.

Birmingham had the better of the play in the second half, although Nuneaton were dangerous at times, but failed to penetrate the visitors' defence with Slater looking safe. The Birmingham forwards were again erratic in their shooting. Towards the end of the game the Birmingham defence adopted the offside method and gave the home attack little in the way of chances.

Medhurst performed well at centre-half, but Starling disappointed at right-half. Tuckley played well at centre-forward, but did not receive enough support.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 02-09-1929

Nuneaton: Thomson; Lee and Page; Johnson, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Whitfield, Tuckley, Hurst and Bright.

Hinckley United: Rankine; Tilbury and Ward; Payne, Callaghan and Belben; Howells, Clack, Fieldhouse, Stirland and Townsend.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Charity Cup. There was a good attendance.

Hinckley played better football from the start, having a better understanding and combining well, although their finishing left much to be desired. The game was end-to-end, with both goals having narrow escapes. Nuneaton for the most part were slow, and played too individually and players were often robbed of the ball. The home team's passing movements were also of a poor standard. Fieldhouse, the Hinckley centre-forward was a constant source of danger to the home defence.

Thomson pulled off a fantastic save before Hinckley opened the scoring after 30 minutes, through Townsend, who sent in a well-directed cross-shot. The visitors added another goal through Fieldhouse, who headed home from a free-kick.

Nuneaton forced the pressure after the break and were mainly on the attack, but failed to finish their efforts. A goal by Tuckley was disallowed for handball before Nuneaton reduced the arrears through Tuckley, who netted with a fast drive following a free-kick inside the penalty area from Whitfield. Nuneaton's weak spot was their half-back line, who failed to keep up with the forwards. Their passing was erratic and they seemed to lose all sense of position.

Lee and Page gave creditable displays, but Thomson was perhaps the most prominent, his saves earning well-dered applause from the spectators. The forwards lacked vitality and could do nothing right, although Tuckley and Whitfield were hard triers, but the former was tightly marked and only had the occasional chance. Hinckley were excellent with their most outstanding players being Rankine and Clack.

Nuneaton Town v Atherstone Town 09-09-1929

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Trew, Medhurst and Brookes; Harris, Whitfield, Tuckley, Price and Bright.

Atherstone: Kester; Harrison and Terry; Higham, Ford and Finch; Albrighton, Gisbourne, Ison, Cross and Hollis.

Nuneaton welcomed Atherstone Town to Manor Park for a Nuneaton Hospital Cup semi-final tie.

Nuneaton started with ten men and there was a thrill in the first minute when Ison dashed through and fired just wide. Lee made up Nuneaton's team immediately after. Atherstone showed up to great advantage in the early stages and only a piece of real bad luck prevented them taking the lead after five minutes, when the ball struck the post with Richardson hopelessly beaten.

Nuneaton took the lead with practically their first attack,

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Whitfield dropping the ball in the goalmouth for Tuckley to head into the net, while Kester was endeavouring to punch away. The goal was against the run of play.

The goal put life into Nuneaton and Kester had to run out of goal to clear from Tuckley. Page cleverly checked an Atherstone raid, after which Tuckley was pulled up for offside. The "Nuns" went further ahead after 13 minutes play, Whitfield touching the ball into the net after Bright had lifted the ball into the goalmouth. Tuckley all but scored a third for Nuneaton with a shot which just passed the wrong side of the upright.

An Atherstone attack, started by Finch, ended in Gisbourne putting wide. The visitors maintained the pressure for a short time, and Richardson was called upon to clear from a ruck of forwards. The game continued to provide many thrills and after Richardson had saved finely from Cross, Tuckley just failed to reach a beautiful centre by Whitfield, Price running the ball behind. Tuckley headed against the Atherstone bar before Whitfield got a great third goal for Nuneaton, scoring with a brilliant shot into the bottom of the net following a Harris corner. "Adders" reduced the lead just on half-time, a blunder by Richardson letting in Hollis, who shot into the net.

The first thrill of the second half saw Tuckley receive the ball from Harris and crash the ball into the side netting. In the next minute Kester skilfully smothered a shot from the centre-forward, who shot from an unmarked position. Page was a tower of strength in the Nuneaton rear division, and continually held up the Atherstone attacks, as the visitors had more of the play and Richardson was kept busy. The home side, however, broke away through Tuckley, and the centre-forward hooked the ball over Kester's head and into the net.

Whitfield was bowled over in the penalty area and a penalty was awarded, but Tuckley's shot was well saved by Kester. In the latter stages of the game, Atherstone exerted great pressure and only a brilliant save by Richardson prevented them from reducing the lead. Gisbourne and Cross both shot wide before the final whistle, with "Adders" still fighting hard for a second goal.

Redditch v Nuneaton Town 14-09-1929

Redditch: Hearne; Woodbine and Nicholls; Phillips, Court and Winnett; Rankle, Stevens, Hackett, Harper and Bell.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Page; Trew, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Whitfield, Tuckley, Price and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to face Redditch in a Birmingham Combination game. Nuneaton were handicapped by the loss of Page for most of the game, following an injury.

The opening exchanges were in favour of the home team, but they were successfully repulsed by Town's defence, with Page being particularly conspicuous. Town forced the pressure and scored through Whitfield after 20 minutes. Receiving the ball from Tuckley, Whitfield beat the Redditch keeper with a drive, which had the home keeper completely beaten.

The setback put new life into Redditch and Nuneaton were

forced to defend for the most part and during a Redditch raid, Page sustained an injury and had to leave the field. Despite the loss of Page, Nuneaton had a fair share of play up until half-time, and at times proved dangerous, although the fine goalkeeping of Lilley prevented Nuneaton from being several goals down at the interval, at which time Town led 1-0.

Nuneaton added to their score two minutes after the interval, following some exciting football, when Tuckley netted after Hearne had saved from Medhurst. The home team hit back and Lilley made another spectacular save. For a while the game was evenly contested, although Tuckley scored an offside goal. Redditch reduced the lead a few minutes from time, when King scored following a free-kick by Phillips.

Nuneaton Town v Leamington Town 16-09-1929

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Starling, Medhurst and Trew; Barratt, Whitfield, Hurst, Price and Bright.

Leamington: Hyde; Holmes and Partridge; Shanks, Millard and Clarke; R. Clarke, Howells, Taylor, Arblaster and Preedy.

Nuneaton welcomed Leamington Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Senior Cup first round tie. The home forward line was weakened by Tuckley's absence.

Nuneaton were first to be really dangerous with Price sending in a well-directed shot following a neat attack. Shortly after Whitfield all but converted from a corner kick, and then Hurst was neatly robbed when on the point of shooting. Leamington retaliated and Brookes was injured when a terrific shot by Millard hit him over the eyes. Nuneaton returned to the attack and scored the first goal after 25 minutes of exciting play, Trew netting with a long range shot which Hyde seemed to fumble, the ball bouncing off his fist.

Leamington hit back and only determined defending by Lee and Brookes kept the visitors out. Nuneaton spoiled several movements because of too much individualism. Leamington forced the pressure with Lilley bringing off two neat saves. Even play followed until Lee put in a terrific shot from the half-way line, with Hyde saving with difficulty and having to throw away. Nothing materialised from the corner.

Leamington began to have the major part of the play and only some good goalkeeping on the part of Lilley stopped them from scoring. The visitors scored the equaliser just a minute from half-time with Preedy netting with a terrific shot, which Lilley touched, but could not keep out.

Similar play to that of the first half prevailed in the second, neither team showing a marked superiority over their opponents. A neat Nuneaton movement initiated by Trew led to Barratt sending in a sharp pass which Price headed towards goal. Hyde appeared to touch it down and a scuffle ensued in the goalmouth, resulting in a free-kick being awarded to Leamington. End-to-end play characterised the game for a period until Nuneaton, attacking fiercely, forced three corners in succession. The third led to a clearance being made and the ball was pushed to Clarke on the wing, who

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made a fine run from the half-way line which ended in Lilley being beaten by Clarke's well-directed shot. The full-time whistle was sounded immediately after the goal.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 28-09-1929

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Trew; Barratt, Peake, Tuckley, Whitfield and Harris.

Hinckley: Bailey; Ward and Tilbury; Payne, Callaghan and Belben; Clack, Stirland, Fieldhouse, Hill and Townsend

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for an Atherstone Nursing Cup semi-final tie. The game was watched by some 3,000 spectators. Harris deputised for Bright, who was absent through illness.

Nuneaton pressed from the start, Tuckley getting in a shot after eluding the visitors' defence. Barratt was conspicuous in a number of home moves before the play turned in favour of Hinckley, with Callaghan shooting wide. Nuneaton attacked again and Pearce initiated several movements, testing Bailey with one shot, who brought off a good save. The Hinckley keeper was called on again during the next few minutes, but proved safe.

The home side took the lead after 15 minutes, Whitfield netting with a fast drive. Nuneaton continued to have the majority of the play and added to their score a few minutes later, with Tuckley scoring after a scramble in front of goal. Hinckley tried to hit back and Stirland got in their first shot after about 30 minutes. The same player tested Lilley before Tuckley almost scored, but Hinckley hit back again and reduced the deficit shortly before half-time when Hill touched the ball into the net after Lee had failed to clear.

Immediately after the break, Tuckley missed a golden opportunity, but made amends ten minutes into the second half when he took a pass from Pearce and eluded the Hinckley defence before scoring his second goal. After a short period of end-to-end play, Tuckley secured his hat-trick following a centre from Harris. Right up until time there were thrilling moments, with both teams having a fair share of the play, but being unable to add to their score. Tuckley and Pearce were outstanding in the home forwards line.

Nuneaton Town v Bournville Athletic 12-10-1929

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Trew; Barratt, Dormer, Tuckley, Whitfield and Bright.

Bournville: Bennett; Passent and Turner; Lamb, Perkins and Sheppard; Plant, Best, Jackson, Astle and Price.

Nuneaton welcomed the Cocoa-Boys of Bournville Athletic to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. There was a gate well in excess of 3,000.

Nuneaton took up the offensive from the start and were one up in the first minute of the game. Lee initiated the move by pushing the ball to Wesson, who passed well forward to Tuckley to dash between the backs and the goal before

lobbing the ball over Bennett's head. The visitors' keeper was at fault for not coming out.

Despite this reverse Bournville attacked with spirit and Lilley was forced to save from Jackson. Immediately after Bennett was brought to his knees to save a shot by Barratt. A splendid cross by Bright went astray, with Tuckley being too far forward. The game was characterised by end-to-end movements. Nuneaton increased their lead some 27 minutes from the start when Passent headed into his own goal after Barratt had all but scored following a pass from Tuckley. A further goal came six minutes later when Tuckley netted after Turner had miskicked a centre by Barratt.

On the resumption, Nuneaton forced the pressure, but were unable to score. Bournville retaliated, but were unable to penetrate the home defence. The play became much quicker and Dormer missed an open goal before Whitfield scored 27 minutes after the interval, forcing his way through the opposing defence in masterly fashion. A little later he added to his score by netting from a pass by Tuckley. Up to the full-time whistle, Nuneaton were mainly on the offensive, but failed to add to the score.

The visitors' keeper Bennett had a good game between the sticks and was responsible for keeping the score down with some excellent goalkeeping. Lilley also performed well for Nuneaton and was well backed up by Lee and Brookes.

Birmingham Trams v Nuneaton Town 19-10-1929

Birmingham Trams: Canning; Garrett and Turner; Hadley, Hughes and Webb; Bird, Warton, Rowbotham, Bishop and Lakin.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Trew; Barratt, Dormer, Tuckley, Whitfield and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to King's Heath to take on Birmingham Trams in a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Having won the toss, the visiting team took up the offensive in the first minute and Canning was called upon to save from Whitfield. Trams retaliated but Wharton shot wide before the home goal had a narrow escape, following an attack by Nuneaton, Tuckley shot over when a goal looked certain.

Dormer and Wesson were conspicuous at this stage, the former for his thrustful moves, and the latter for his able defensive work. Trams opened up the play, and Town's defence spent a worried few minutes in thwarting some dangerous moves. Town took the lead after 32 minutes, when Dormer netted with a first-timer from an opening by Tuckley.

Following this reverse, Birmingham attacked with spirit, but erratic shooting spoiled the majority of their efforts. Returning to the attack, Nuneaton increased their lead three minutes before the interval, Whitfield scoring from a Medhurst pass. Almost on half-time Nuneaton scored a third goal after Dormer crossed, and in an effort to clear, Turner put through his own goal.

After the break, the play was of a more even nature, until

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after ten minutes the home side reduced the lead when Wharton beat Lilley following a splendid movement on the left. Nuneaton seemed to lose heart at this stage, and Trams forced the pace with Town being on the defensive. The visitors had a goal by Whitfield disallowed before Trams further reduced Nuneaton's lead when Wharton scored.

Nuneaton Town v Cannock Town 26-10-1929

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Trew; Barratt, Whitfield, Tuckley, Price and Bright.

Cannock: Sims; Mason and Smallman; Garbett, Hewitt and Hall; Goode, Brough, Parkes, Chilton and Armishaw.

Cannock Town were the visitors to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The ground was very heavy, making anything like a fast game impossible.

Cannock took up the offensive in the initial stages of the game, but were soon forced to defend against dangerous movements on the part of Nuneaton. Whitfield hit the post after one attack and Tuckley put the rebound into the side netting. The home team were now showing superiority both in attack and defence, and took the lead after some 15 minutes play, when Whitfield netted in characteristic style.

Nuneaton maintained their superiority and increased the lead through Tuckley, who hustled the ball in following Bright's well placed centre. Promising moves by Nuneaton came to a halt through offside decisions, while Tuckley netted, but his goal was disallowed for an infringement. The home team kept up the pressure until half-time.

After the break a good centre from Barratt went begging, and ten minutes later Cannock won possession and began a determined attack, which ended in Chilton netting. This reverse put new life into the home team, who returning to the attack and obtained a penalty for handball. Tuckley took the kick, but shot straight at Sims, who had little trouble in clearing. Price and Whitfield were conspicuous in a number of dangerous movements which followed. Tuckley increased Nuneaton's score half-an-hour from the interval, netting from a neat opening by Price. A few minutes later Tuckley got his hat-trick, beating Sims with a high shot from a pass by Barratt.

Nuneaton were decidedly the better of the two sides and Cannock were never allowed to become too dangerous. The outstanding forwards for Nuneaton were Whitfield and Price, while the visitors' keeper Sims was outstanding and his efforts received applause from the crowd on several occasions.

Nuneaton Town v Leicester Nomads 02-11-1929

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Johnson; Barratt, Trew, Tuckley, Hurst and Bright.

Leicester Nomads: Reckless; Widdowson and Moore; Williamson, Mason and Alsopp; Price, Roxburgh, Dable, Allsopp and Castle.

The fixture against Evesham was postponed and Nuneaton took on Leicester Nomads in a Leicestershire Senior Cup game at Manor Park. There was a moderate attendance.

Nuneaton were first to press and Tuckley missed a good opening early on before Nomads threatened, but were thwarted on three occasions by Brookes. Nuneaton hit back and there was a prolonged attack on the visitors' goal, with some exciting football being witnessed. Again and again the Nomads goal was subject to attack, but the ball was miraculously kept out. Town took the lead after 18 minutes, with Trew netting from Barratt's corner. Trew had a goal disallowed for offside a minute later and then missed a sitter, shooting over from Barratt's centre.

Tuckley put Nuneaton further ahead when he headed home from Barratt's corner, and close on the interval Medhurst put in a terrific shot that Reckless saved with difficulty.

Nuneaton went further ahead five minutes after the break when Barratt won possession and centred for Hurst, who met the ball in mid-air and volleyed into the net. Barratt put in some perfect centres and notched the fourth goal himself, from Medhurst's pass. The fifth goal was the result of a blunder on the part of Nomads' defence, which let in Tuckley, who screwed the ball towards goal and Barratt rushed in to score.

Nuneaton monopolised play and following a scuffle in front of goal, Hurst hit the upright. From the rebound a defender, in an effort to clear, put through his own goal. Close on time Hurst converted a centre by Bright.

Barratt was the outstanding forward on the field, taking part in no less than five of the goals scored. The Town's first three goals were all from corners taken by Barratt, and the fourth was scored by Barratt himself, as was the fifth. Hurst, who took Whitfield's place, was also conspicuous, scoring two goals, including the best of the match when he volleyed in Barratt's centre. Bright also gave a good display.

Nuneaton Town v Leamington Town 09-11-1929

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Johnson; Barratt, Trew, Tuckley, Price and Bright.

Leamington: Hunt; Holmes and Partridge; Neale, Millard and Clarke; Shanks, Taylor, Cooper, Arblaster and Compton.

Nuneaton welcomed Leamington Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. There were some 3,000 supporters in attendance.

Leamington attacked from the start and Lilley had to handle a shot by Taylor before Nuneaton retaliated and Tuckley made a vain attempt. Hunt had to handle from Medhurst's shot, while several neat moves on the part of Nuneaton were thwarted by the visitors' defence. Bright and Price were conspicuous when Nuneaton attacked, but Leamington took the lead after 19 minutes after Wesson conceded a free kick, which was converted by Clarke.

Nuneaton forced the pressure and Medhurst drove a shot wide of the goal, while Price hit the ball over the bar from a centre by Barratt, when a goal looked certain. Nuneaton equalised after 38 minutes, Tuckley netting a pass by Trew.

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The home side now monopolised the play and could do everything but score, until just before the interval when Tuckley followed up a long pass and put the ball into the net after Hunt had fumbled, but the goal was disallowed.

On the resumption, Nuneaton completely swamped the opposition and took the lead six minutes after the interval when Medhurst rushed in and headed past a knot of players, following Barratt's corner. The play that followed was of a fluctuating character, but Nuneaton eventually attacked in masterly style and added to their score when Trew netted with a well-directed shot. Three goals then came in quick succession with Medhurst heading home Barratt's centre, Price netting from Barratt's corner and Tuckley adding a sixth, also from a Barratt centre.

Medhurst was outstanding in defence and gave his best display of the season, while Lilley made some splendid saves. Barratt was again outstanding with his crossing and corner kicks, providing the passes for three of the goals. Price, at inside-left was outstanding.

Bromsgrove Rovers v Nuneaton Town 16-11-1929

Bromsgrove: Merrick; Barratt and Hadden; Moss, Coyle and Juggins; Dipple, Tranter, Crisp, Hancox and Court.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Johnson; Barratt, Whitfield, Price, Harris and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to the Victoria Ground, home of Bromsgrove Rovers, for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Town were first to attack, with Merrick having to handle a shot by Paul. Soon after, Price headed over from a Bright centre before Bromsgrove retaliated and took the lead after just three minutes, when Crisp converted a well-placed centre from Court. Nuneaton again took up the offensive and obtained a corner, but nothing came of it. A few moments later, Lilley was forced into making two neat saves in quick succession.

Hancox and Court were prominent in following moves, before Nuneaton attacked with determination and Whitfield made an unavailing effort to score. An offensive move by Bromsgrove ended in Crisp heading home from a difficult pass by Moss. Nuneaton again took up the running, but their moves were thwarted by the home defence, who were playing a sound game. Up to half-time the game was of an end-to-end nature.

On resuming, Nuneaton monopolised play, but were very weak in front of goal. Paul missed an opportunity of reducing Bromsgrove's lead, and following this the Town defence were masters of the situation and kept the home attack in check. Medhurst was prominent with his long-range shots, while a Whitfield shot brought Merrick to the ground, and with an open goal facing him, Paul shot wide. Nuneaton reduced the lead after 24 minutes of the second half when Whitfield netted from Bright's centre. Although Nuneaton were now superior to their opponents, they failed to add to the score.

Bromsgrove were a little superior in the first half, but in the second Nuneaton completely monopolised the game, but could only score once. A number of open goals were missed by Town, the chief offender being Paul, who deputised for Tuckley. Bromsgrove hung on tenaciously in the second half, and hardly ever crossed the half-way line.

Halesowen v Nuneaton Town 23-11-1929

Halesowen: Page; Parkes and Wright; Whitticase, W. Guest and Armfield; T. Guest, Walker, Saunders, Harris and Tromans.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Johnson; Barratt, Whitfield, Tuckley, Hurst and Bright.

Nuneaton Town travelled to Halesowen for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The condition of the ground made controlling the ball very tricky.

Halesowen took the lead very shortly after the kick-off, having the slope in their favour in the first-half. Tuckley equalised a very few minutes later following a centre by Bright. Even play ensued for a while, Nuneaton holding their own fairly well, but shortly before the interval, T. Guest gave Halesowen the lead.

Nuneaton equalised about ten minutes after half-time, when Whitfield scored a brilliant goal. Town then had two penalty appeals turned down, but nevertheless, Bright gave them the lead with a nicely worked goal. After this Halesowen played with skill and spirit, and were the superior side in the closing stages, scoring two more goals. The visitors did not do as well down the slope as might be have been expected and in the last few minutes the Town goal had several narrow escapes, but Lilley performed well.

It was a game of fluctuating fortunes, and Nuneaton, who were a goal down at the interval, recovered so far as to gain the lead during the second half, but they could not keep it, and Halesowen finished winners by the odd goal in seven. It was a good performance on their part, and all the more so as they had not previously won a game this season. They certainly played well on Saturday, and were not undeserving of their win.

Bloxwich Strollers v Nuneaton Town 30-11-1929

Bloxwich: Taylor; Forrest and Stanton; Bakewell, Bradley and Cotterill; Turner, Lane, Phillips, Clay and Aston.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Knox; Barratt, Trew, Bancroft, Whitfield and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to Bloxwich Strollers for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The pitch was in a muddy condition.

Nuneaton had the advantage of the slope, but Bloxwich were the first to attack, with a clever movement terminating in an offside decision. The visitors hit back, but misdirected shooting spoiled their efforts. The play was fairly even at this stage. Town won possession and Bright centred for Bancroft to head towards goal, but Taylor cleared. Knox, Town's new left half-



back, was conspicuous with a neat passing movement, which ended in Taylor again saving from Bancroft. Bloxwich took the lead some five minutes from the interval, Clay netting with a well-directed shot, following a corner.

After the break, Nuneaton attacked strongly and equalised after 11 minutes of interesting play, Bancroft netting after Taylor had come out of goal. Two minutes later, following a clearance by Brookes, Nuneaton attacked again and from a centre by Bright, Trew hooked the ball into the net. A few moments later Bancroft ran through and almost scored again. About 15 minutes after the break, Lane equalised for the home side, with Nuneaton's defenders being bunched too close together to get the ball away. It was an unfortunate bungle on their part.

Nuneaton now played well and booted the ball about to good purpose, but the home team took the lead 27 minutes after the interval. Lilley was drawn out and Lane put the ball past him into the net. Town were now mainly on the defensive, and eventually a miskick by Brookes let the home team in and the ball went across to the left for Clay to score with a lucky shot, with just five minutes to go.

It was Nuneaton's third consecutive defeat and right from the outset the home forwards realised that the best way to overcome the handicap of the muddy ground was to play the open game, which they did to advantage. The home defence played a sound and constructive game, and in most cases proved themselves to be stronger than the Nuneaton forwards, who adopted close methods of attack, which generally proved to be of no avail.

The Town forward line was well led by Bancroft, who, in his initial game, gave a creditable display. The Town defence was not at its best, and two of the Bloxwich goals were down to unfortunate mistakes.

Nuneaton Town v Market Harborough 07-12-1929

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Page; Knox, Medhurst and Brookes; Wesson, Pearce, Bancroft, Trew and Bright.

Harborough: Barrett; Coe and Almey; Panter, Turber and Hebbes; Long, G. Varnham, Hanney, Orton and P. Varnham.

Nuneaton welcomed Market Harborough to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination match. The effect of Town's last three defeats and the inclement weather resulted in a poor attendance, with not more than 1,500 being present.

The high wind had a big effect on the play, the game being fought practically all of the time on just one side of the field. Nuneaton were favoured with the wind for the first half, but rather than proving an advantage, it was quite the other way round. Although they attacked for the major portion of the first half, the home team found it impossible to net but once, although the Market Harborough goal had any amount of lucky escapes.

On several occasions the ball either struck the upright, the

crossbar, or a defender. In the second half, Nuneaton, with the wind partly against them, played a much better game than in the first half and again had the major share of the play, but failed to add to their score. The fault did not lie so much with the defence as with the forwards, who did not combine at all well, with their movements generally proving to be of no avail.

Bright and Wesson were perhaps the best of the line, the former supplying the centre from which which Wesson hit the equaliser. Pearce at inside-right missed to a great extent the services of his usual partner, Barratt, and although he did at times show glimpses of his former brilliance, there was not the best of understanding with his fellow forwards. Bancroft, who made his first appearance before a home crowd, did not come up to expectations, but it could not be said that he received any great support. It is doubtful he touched the ball more than a dozen times in each half.

Lilley gave his usual sound display in goal, with the exception of one occasion when he ran out of goal at the wrong time, P. Varnham having little difficulty in scoring the equaliser. The Harborough team was excellent throughout. They combined well, and fielded the strongest team seen at Manor Park this season.

Atherstone Town v Nuneaton Town 14-12-1929

Atherstone: Kester; Wall and Harrison; Finch, Bird and Terry; Albrighton, Hall, Ellis, Stirland and Cross.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Page; Knox, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Pearce, Bancroft, Whitfield and Prince.

Nuneaton made the short journey to Sheepy Road to take on their old rivals Atherstone Town in a Birmingham Combination fixture.

The first half favoured Nuneaton, but despite the many openings provided them, the away side's forwards were unable to profit by them. As in the previous week's match, the forward line failed to combine effectively, the result of determined efforts generally ending in a fruitless manner. A noticeable feature of the home team's play was the defence's adoption of the one-back game, which they played with a certain amount of success. Again and again determined efforts on the part of the visiting team ended in offside decisions.

It was not until a quarter of an hour after the interval that the first goal was scored, Atherstone taking the lead. The goal followed a neat movement resulting in Lilley saving, but not effectively clearing, and Ellis netted while the goalkeeper was out of position. Atherstone played much the better football after this and added to their score through Stirland, who netted with a fast, low shot.

Nuneaton retaliated with determination and reduced the lead, Bancroft beating Kester with a well-directed shot just inside the upright. Up till the close of the game, both teams were playing a good game, but neither were able to add



to their score. For Nuneaton, Barratt, Pearce and Whitfield were the best of the forwards, although they did not play up to their usual standard. The defence was good as a whole, Medhurst and Knox playing particularly well. Page and Lee both played a sound game, while Lilley gave his usual outstanding display.

Nuneaton Town v Darlaston 21-12-1929

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Knox, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Pearce, Sharman, Whitfield and Bright.

Darlaston: Gray; Raynes and Durnall; Whale, Marson and Cooper; Ash, Jackson, Wilding, Taylor and Yates.

Nuneaton welcomed Darlaston to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. Darlaston had suffered one defeat all season and Nuneaton had gained a single point in their last five matches.

The game started in exciting style as Darlaston rushed away, only to be repelled, and play was immediately transferred with Sharman all but getting through. A moment later Sharman again obtained possession and, when confronted by Gray, passed to Whitfield, who shot into an open goal. Nuneaton maintained the pressure and increased their lead 10 minutes later, Sharman netting with a well-directed shot from Bright's cross.

Bright was carried off, but Darlaston remained on the defensive, as Sharman gave their defence plenty of trouble and after 30 minutes of fast play, Nuneaton added to their score through Whitfield, who netted from Sharman's pass.

After the break the home team missed two sitters. A pass from Bright went through Sharman's legs to Pearce, who failed to take advantage and a moment later Whitfield shot wide from in front of goal. Sharman obtained the Town's fourth goal, taking a pass from Whitfield and netting with a fast first-timer. Two minutes later Raynes deflected the ball into his own goal from a centre by Barratt. A minute later Barratt scored with a high shot which had Gray completely beaten.

The visitors were shaky in both defence and attack, but they were awarded a penalty about 30 minutes into the second half when Lee handled the ball in the penalty area. Marson took the kick, but Richardson saved at full-length to the delight of the crowd. For the next few minutes the visitors swarmed round the home goal and Richardson performed a series of fine saves.

About eight minutes from time, Lee, who had gone upfield, centred, and Sharman let the ball go to Whitfield, who smashed the ball into the net.

Nuneaton's display was one of all-round excellence, Darlaston being outclassed in every department. Sharman, who prior to being hurt at work, had played for the Reserves, proved to be the mainstay of the attack, who played with exceptional quickness and grit. Richardson, who deputised for Lilley started shakily, but afterwards played a brilliant game.

Hinckley United v Nuneaton Town 25-12-1929

Hinckley United: Tucker; Reader and Tilbury; Sear, Callaghan and Aston; Clack, Raymond, Hughes, Hill and Townsend.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Paul; Wesson, Medhurst and Brindley; Barratt, Johnson, Sharman, Hurst and Harris.

Nuneaton visited The Holywell to take on Hinckley United in a Christmas Day Birmingham Combination game.

Despite the fact that they had a much depleted team, Town put up a strong fight, and eventually ran out the winners by the odd goal in five.

Although the home team were favoured with the wind and the slope, Nuneaton were mostly the attackers, and took the lead after fourteen minutes' play, Sharman scoring a brilliant goal. Hinckley retaliated and got an equaliser two minutes later, Hughes placing the ball well into the corner of the net. Hurst and Harris both sustained injuries and the former had to go off for treatment. He resumed some minutes later and Sharman gave the visitors the lead again, after 30 minutes.

Following the interval, both teams enjoyed an equal share of the play. Hughes got an equaliser for Hinckley following a neat move. The goal was followed by some very interesting and fast play and Hinckley had a goal disallowed. Nuneaton grabbed the winner two minutes from time, Sharman banging the ball into the net after Hurst had hit the crossbar.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 26-12-1929

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Wesson, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Brindley, Sharman, Whitfield and Bright.

Hinckley United: Tucker; Reader and Hill; Sear, Callaghan and Clack; Howells, Raymond, Hughes, Fieldhouse and Townsend.

Town welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for a Boxing Day fixture, in the Birmingham Combination.

One of the largest gates of the season witnessed a none too brilliant display of football. The game was devoid of practically any excitement, both teams lacking speed or energy. The score was, on the whole a fair reflection of the play, although a number of easy openings were missed by the home team, as well as the visitors. Nuneaton never exerted themselves at any time of the game, and throughout the game played confidently.

Hinckley, on the other hand, went all out to revenge themselves for the previous day's defeat, but rarely showed much promise in front of goal, although they played with a better understanding than Nuneaton. The home team's chief weakness lay in the half-backs, who failed to combine well with the forwards. The forwards, too, seemed out of position, and were inclined to fall back too far.

Whitfield and Brindley were the two most outstanding forwards. Sharman did not come up to expectations, although he performed creditably.



Brindley scored for Nuneaton in the first half, Townsend equalising for Hinckley. Nuneaton added to their score during the second half through Sharman and Wesson.

Darlaston v Nuneaton Town 28-12-1929

Darlaston: Gray; Raynes and Durnall; Whale, Marson and Cooper; Ash, Jackson, Wilding, Taylor and Yates.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Black, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Brindley, Sharman, Whitfield and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to the City Ground, home of Darlaston FC, for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The conditions underfoot were greatly against Nuneaton, who rarely perform well in heavy conditions.

Darlaston took possession from the start and obtained a corner, which was cleared and a moment later Taylor shot wide following a neat effort. Darlaston maintained their superiority and took the lead after 10 minutes, when Lee let in Wilding, who made no mistake in beating Richardson. Nuneaton retaliated and forced a corner, but nothing materialised, although the home defence experienced some difficulty in clearing.

Darlaston returned and Yates struck the upright and Richardson saved the rebound. Nuneaton's moves were often spoiled by the forwards being out of position. Play at this stage was anything but exciting, the condition of the pitch making good football impossible. Nuneaton shared the remaining play of the first half, but were unable to put in any effective moves.

Straight after the resumption, Darlaston were awarded a penalty kick, awarded for handball against Lee, but Jackson put his shot over the bar. Darlaston obtained two corners in quick succession, but neither came to anything. Nuneaton attacked with determination, with Sharman and Medhurst featuring prominently, but although promising movements were started, the home defence proved masters of the situation.

A prolonged siege of the Nuneaton goal resulted in Richardson being forced to bring off a number of brilliant saves. A clever Nuneaton move led to Barratt sending in a great shot, from which Gray could only push the ball away, and Sharman banged the ball into the back of the net. About three minutes later, Sharman beat the home defence on his own and scored a beautiful goal. Immediately after Wilding netted, and soon after that Yates gave Darlaston the lead. After a long spell on the defensive, Town reached the other end and Bright put the ball behind. Just before the close Ash netted. He had a clear opening and was able to screw the ball into the net, well out of Richardson's reach.

Darlaston fully deserved their victory, having a far greater share of the game than Nuneaton, and but for the undoubted brilliance of Richardson, the score would have been much more in favour of the home team.

Nuneaton Town v Atherstone Town 04-01-1930

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Knox, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Brindley, Sharman, Whitfield and Bright.

Atherstone Town: Kester; Wall and Harrison; Finch, Bird and Terry; Albrighton, Hall, Ellis, Cross and Hollis.

Nuneaton welcomed Atherstone Town to Manor Park for the first Birmingham Combination game of 1930.

Atherstone commenced the game in dashing style but were quickly repulsed by the strong Nuneaton defence. The ball was quickly in the visitor's half and but for the opportunism of Kester, Sharman would probably have scored. The Atherstone custodian, however, rushed out and succeeded in making a fine clearance. A moment later Whitfield was presented with a golden opportunity of netting, but missed the ball completely in attempting to send in a first-timer.

The Atherstone goal at this time was besieged and had a series of remarkable escapes. A defender just managed to clear the ball with Kester unsighted and then Whitfield went close with a neat header. A movement on the part of the visitors ended in Ellis, their centre-forward, being forced to retire through injury. Play at this time calmed down somewhat, although Nuneaton still maintained the pressure, and Whitfield shot wide.

Although they had practically the whole of the game it was not until after 25 minutes of play that Nuneaton managed to secure the lead. The goal followed a capital shot by Medhurst, which Kester stopped, but was unable to effect a clearance, the ball bouncing to Sharman, whose pass found Brindley, who shot into the net with Kester having no chance. Ten minutes later the home team added to their lead when Kester was forced to come out to deal with a long-shot from midfield, and in doing so collided with Harrison. Both players were injured on the ground as Sharman shot into an empty net. The home side maintained their superiority right up until the interval.

On the resumption, Nuneaton again monopolised play, and Kester was quickly in evidence in saving a well-directed shot by Brindley. A mistake by Knox let the visitors in, resulting in Hollis skimming the crossbar. Nuneaton returned to the attack and secured their third goal ten minutes after the break, Whitfield heading past Kester from a pass by Brindley, who had received a pass from Knox.

Play was stopped several times while players were attended to for injuries and Nuneaton fell away badly. Atherstone had a greater share of the game, but spoiled the majority of their efforts with wild kicking. After half an hour of the second half Whitfield netted Nuneaton's fourth goal, beating Kester with an unstoppable shot.

The ball was frequently out of play at this stage. Atherstone's only goal came about two minutes from the end, Richardson making the mistake of walking too far after saving well. A free-kick was awarded, from which Albrighton netted.



Nuneaton deserved their win, but the game was poor with plenty of kick and rush and little science. All that can be said is that Nuneaton were the better of two poor sides. Atherstone were weak in practically every department.

Market Harborough v Nuneaton Town 11-01-1930

Market Harborough: Barratt; Rayworth and Panter; Turner, McClure and Hebbes; Sargeant, G. Varnham, Hanney, Orton and P. Varnham.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Knox, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Wesson, Sharman, Whitfield and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to Market Harborough for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The game took place in a snowstorm.

Neither side showed any marked superiority in the early exchanges, each team attacking in turn. A neat Nuneaton move resulted in Barratt centring poorly, while Richardson was tested when Hanney put in a fast drive. Nuneaton returned and Barratt brought off a splendid save from a shot by Wesson, who had received from Barratt. Keeping up the pressure, Nuneaton made a determined effort to score, Barratt centring for Whitfield to send in a feeble shot.

Harborough retaliated, but were forced back by a strong defence. Another attack by the visitors led to Wesson forcing a fruitless corner before two splendid goalscoring opportunities were missed by Wesson and Sharman, while Hanney did likewise at the other end. Harborough took the lead after 23 minutes, Orton touching the ball into the net following a tussle in front of goal. Nuneaton lacked the determination of the home forwards, and despite having most of the play, failed to produce anything definite.

Wesson failed again when presented with a gilt-edged chance, and right up until the interval Nuneaton had the majority of the play.

On the resumption play became much faster, both teams playing with determination. Each end in turn was visited, but defences prevailed against strong attacks. Nuneaton got the equaliser 15 minutes after the break, with Wesson netting following a fast Nuneaton movement. The home goal had a series of remarkable escapes, Nuneaton practically monopolising the play. They forced a corner and from Bright's flag-kick, Medhurst found the net with a splendid well-directed and forceful shot. The visiting team had their opponents penned in, but could do everything but score.

A solitary movement saw Harborough draw level, Richardson, in trying to throw away, letting the ball slip for Hanney to touch into the net. Nuneaton retaliated, and McClure brought off a neat save by heading out a terrific drive from Whitfield. He was injured in making the clearance, but saved what seemed a certain goal.

Nuneaton put in one of their best performances of the season and were well worth the point they gained. In fact, Harborough can count themselves lucky in not having both points taken from them.

Nuneaton Town v Bloxwich Strollers 18-01-1930

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Knox, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Pearce, Sharman, Whitfield and Bright.

Bloxwich: Taylor; Bakewell and Forrest; Goode, Walker and Cotterill; Kenn, Lane, Bradley, Clay and Aston.

Nuneaton welcomed Bloxwich Strollers to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game.

Bloxwich attacked from the start but were forced back and Nuneaton won possession and were soon in the visitors' half, a neat movement initiated by Medhurst resulting in Pearce passing to Barratt, whose shot was partly saved by Taylor, but the ball rebounded to Barratt, who missed completely.

Nuneaton maintained the pressure and were giving their opponents a worrying time, and after 18 minutes Town took the lead when Bright won possession and passed to Whitfield, who neatly flicked the ball into the net. Bloxwich were still on the defensive, with Taylor dealing effectively with a number of well-directed shots from the opposing forwards. Nuneaton added to their lead after 20 minutes when Taylor partially saved from Barratt, and Sharman rushed through and put the ball into the net. Three minutes from the interval, Nuneaton scored again when Sharman netted from close range following a pass by Pearce.

On resuming, Town maintained their superiority, but were unable to provide anything definite. Two corners in quick succession came to nothing and Bloxwich made a determined rally, forcing a corner from which Bradley reduced the lead. Immediately after Town raced away and got their fourth goal through Whitfield, who netted from a pass by Pearce. Fifteen minutes after the interval the visitors scored again following a corner. Richardson stopped the shot, but failed to clear, resulting in Lane scoring. Bloxwich kept up the pressure, but were gradually worn down by the strong Nuneaton defence.

Shortly after, Town scored their fifth goal, with Sharman having little difficulty in scoring after receiving a pass from Bright. Play was fairly equal up until the close, but neither side added to their score. Sharman had a great game for the home side, and was fearless in the tackle. Whitfield and Bright were also well to the fore. Richardson made one or two faulty clearances, but was well supported by Lee and Page.

Gresley Rovers v Nuneaton Town 25-01-1930

Gresley: Waring; Wheeldon and Hadley; Whittaker, Brein and Finch; Potter, Bird, Methuen, Vaughan and Topliss.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Knox, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Pearce, Sharman, Whitfield and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to the Moat Ground to take on Gresley Rovers in a Birmingham Combination fixture.

The game opened in an even fashion with both teams attacking in turn. Brookes and Sharman showed up well for Nuneaton and Richardson brought off a good save. Nuneaton attacked



and Whitfield shot wide before Pearce shot over the bar. Erratic shooting spoiled the majority of efforts on both sides, but after 25 minutes of scrappy play, the home team took the lead through Methven, who scored following a corner kick.

Pearce equalised for Nuneaton five minutes later, when Whitfield passed out to Bright, who centred for Pearce, who met the ball and netted with a well-directed shot. Just before the interval, Gresley regained the lead when Bird scored following a centre from Topliss.

After the break, Nuneaton pressed strongly, and Bright went very close with a shot that all but went into the net. Play was characterised by end-to-end moves, but despite the fact that each team had a spell of offensive play in turn, neither could profit by it. Throughout the second half a number of promising efforts failed to produce anything definite owing to unconvincing forward play.

Nuneaton were well served by Whitfield, Bright and Barratt in the forward line, although Sharman was not well supported in the centre. Pearce gave a creditable display as did Medhurst, who was the best of the half-backs. Richardson's display in goal was well up to his normal standard and he was well supported by Page and Lee.

Nuneaton Town v Bromsgrove Rovers 01-02-1930

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Knox, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Pearce, Sharman, Hurst and Bright.

Bromsgrove: Smith; Barrett and Haddon; Coyle, Moss and Juggins; Dipple, Sandles, Evans, Hancox and Gammidge.

Nuneaton welcomed Bromsgrove Rovers to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination match. Conditions underfoot were not conducive to good football.

In the early part of the first half the home team took possession of the game, and although it was not until 20 minutes play that they won the lead, it was not because they did not have the opportunity. In the first few minutes, Sharman shot wide when presented with a gilt-edged chance. This was not the only opportunity missed, owing to erratic shooting. The Town's first goal came as the result of some fine constructive football, Sharman netting after receiving from Pearce. Three minutes later Sharman again netted following a prolonged attack on the visitors' goal. Throughout the half, Nuneaton maintained their superiority, but were unable to add to their lead.

On resuming, the visitors began well, but were held by Nuneaton's defence, and the home side got their third goal when Sharman completed his hat-trick, scoring five minutes into the half. Ten minutes later, in endeavouring to clear Hurst's shot, Hadden put through his own goal. After this Nuneaton fell away altogether and allowed Bromsgrove to reduce the lead on two occasions, their centre-forward Evans, netting twice.

Bromsgrove made a number of plucky attempts to further reduce the home team's lead, but to no avail. Sound defensive

play was a feature of Town's first half play and Richardson was rarely tested. Lee and Page were again conspicuous with their neat and forceful clearances. The half-back line played a sound game and fed their forwards accurately and well, with Medhurst at centre-half the best performer. Sharman was the star forward and his aggressiveness in leading the attack was rewarded with a hat-trick.

Leamington Town v Nuneaton Town 08-02-1930

Leamington: Hyde; Holmes and Partridge; Shanks, Compton and Clarke; Taylor, Cooper, Millard, Arblaster and Bethel.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Knox, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Pearce, Sharman, Hurst and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to meet Leamington Town in a Birmingham Combination match.

In the first few minutes of the game, when Nuneaton attacked, Sharman shot wide from an easy opportunity. Shortly after Barratt shot over from close range after the Leamington keeper had made a faulty clearance from Hurst. Barratt put in some neat and well-placed centres, but his fellow forwards failed to take advantage of the opportunities presented to them. When just in front of goal, Sharman again sent wide, and then headed over from a centre by Hurst.

In the closing stages of the first half, Leamington scored twice, first through Cooper, who netted with a terrific long-range shot, and secondly through Millard, who headed in from a centre by Taylor.

On the resumption, Nuneaton took up the offensive for a short time, but were gradually beaten back, and throughout the remainder of the half, they rarely reached the opposite end. After seven minutes' play, Leamington increased their lead still further, Arblaster netting from close range with a shot which gave Richardson no chance. The game continued in an uninteresting and unconvincing style, both teams finishing weakly. At the close, Leamington added another goal, Taylor beating Richardson at close range.

Leamington deserved their victory, if only because of their ability to snap up opportunities when presented. In the first-half Nuneaton were practically the only team playing, but although favoured with most of the play they absolutely failed to score. Up to that point they played well, but finished badly.

Nuneaton Town AFC AGM

Improved Financial Position

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Nuneaton Town Football Club Association, Ltd., was held in the Newdegate Arms Hotel on Monday evening last, presided over by Mr. G. H. Wheway (chairman of the directors).

In moving the adoption of the report and balance sheet, the Chairman said they would notice from the balance sheet that the Club had had another successful year, and that



the financial position of the Club had been considerably improved. They all knew that since the last annual meeting the ground had been re-purchased at the cost of £2,500. They were able to do that by having a mortgage at the bank and a personal guarantee by the directors of £500. That amount, they would notice, had been considerably reduced, and would, they all hoped, be still more reduced.

The Chairman, on behalf of the shareholders and directors, expressed thanks to the public of Nuneaton for their support, without which, what had been done, could never have been achieved. He also expressed thanks to the hon. secretary (Mr F. Perry), the manager (Mr F. Payne) and the Supporters' Club, ably led by Mr J. T. Hoof (chairman) and Mr A. Dyde (secretary). To reporters and the local Press, he also extended thanks.

From a playing point of view, since the last meeting it was history that they won the Combination last season. This year they had not done so well, especially away from home. The team did not seem to combine so well together away as they did on Manor Park. Perhaps it was the ground which had something to do with it, as they considered Manor Park second to none outside the Third Division, and in some cases the Second Division. They hoped the public would rally round them in the remaining few matches and that they would finish near the top, if not top, of the League table.

Better Class of Football

With regard to a better class of football, about which so much had been said, the Chairman said that it was the opinion of the directors that there was nothing between the Birmingham Combination and the Third Division of the English League that would satisfy the public of Nuneaton. The directors were also satisfied that the public of Nuneaton would not be prepared to pay an increased charge of admission for even a little better class of football, and that before the Club could launch out into a better class of football there had to be no debt whatever, but rather that there should be a balance at the bank. It was hoped that there would be a Midland section of the Third Division formed. The idea had been mooted, and would probably mature. Then would be their chance.

Mr W. Deans, seconding, said that although he had only been with the Club for some twelve months, he had been struck by the excellent way in which the business had been conducted. He had noticed recently a tendency for decreased gates, but hoped that would not be so any longer. What they needed at the moment was the support of the public.

The report was adopted.

Mr F. Carris suggested that twelve men should be sent on away matches so that the trainer would not have to be called upon to play.

Blackpool Cheque

Mr Harry Watkins asked why the cheque they had received from Blackpool was not shown on the balance sheet.

Mr Fred Payne asked how Mr Watkins knew the Club had received a cheque from Blackpool?

Mr Watkins: That is my business.

Mr H. Warmington said that was the first he had heard of the Club receiving anything from Blackpool. He thought the shareholders ought to have known.

Mr J. Payne said the matter was a disgusting business. They had received a cheque of £10 as a donation to the Club on the transference of two of their players, but he thought that the sum was no recompense. More money had been promised, but the business had not been finished yet.

Election of Directors

The Chairman, referring to the election of directors, said three directors had retired, but all sought re-election. Mr H. Watkins had also put forward his name. The election by ballot resulted as follows: S. Butler (512), J. Payne (505), A. F. Thomas (495), elected; H. Watkins (142), not elected.

Supporters' Club Report

Mr J. T. Hoof (chairman of the Supporters' Club) in his report said that all ought to be satisfied with the financial position of the Club, especially when they considered the position four years back. As far as the Supporters' Club were concerned, they were glad to have been able to have done something to bring the Club's present position about. During the year they had handed over £200 to the Club, and had sent £50 to the Nuneaton General Hospital. They had a balance in the bank of just over £40.

Referring to the Carnival, Mr Hoof said they were disappointed with the tradesmen of the town in not making use of the carnival, and likewise the hospital authorities were disappointing in not giving their help. He felt sure they could repeat what they had done, and so be able to hand over a similar sum towards helping to diminish the debt on the ground.

Relieving The Overdraft

Mr Payne, following a reference to the bank overdraft of £500, said that one way of reducing the overdraft would be for the shareholders to take out £500 of unsubscribed capital.

Mr F. Payne said that he had tried by issuing stamps each week, but the scheme had proved a failure.

Mr F. Barbour asked if the FA loan scheme had fallen through?

The Chairman said the directors had made application to the FA for a loan, but negotiations were pending.

Mr J. Payne said at present the shares in the Club were worth 7s. each, but if £500 were subscribed the shares would immediately be worth 10s., and in three years' time would be worth 15s.

Mr Deans suggested that if they gave a 5 per cent dividend next year it would be an encouragement for people to take out further shares.



Fed-Up Public

The question of better class football was again brought up, Mr Harbour stating that the public were getting a little fed-up with Combination football.

Mr Watkins asked if the expense of joining the Second Division of the London Combination would be too great.

The Chairman answered in the affirmative. He added that if they were going to run a team they had to make it pay. They had to clear the Club from debt before they thought about advancing.

Mr F. Payne said there was a League shortly to be formed which would be great improvement on their own. People did not want District League football, because it was no better than that they already had. They had had better class football, but did not receive the support of the public.

Mr J. Payne suggested that the meeting send a resolution asking that the Combination and District Leagues be amalgamated. By doing this he contended they would be having the finest football on Manor Park outside the English League.

The Chairman said that the only way to bring better class football to Nuneaton would be for the shareholders, directors and public to support the Club and do nothing to retard its progress. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks being accorded the Chairman.

Nuneaton Town v Evesham Town 15-02-1930

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Brookes; Knox, Medhurst and Brindley; Barratt, Pearce, Sharman, Whitfield and Bright.

Evesham: Barnett; Stokes and Spragg; Davis, Johnson and Moore; Bacon, Allen, Haines, Knight and Millership.

Nuneaton welcomed Evesham Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

At the start of the game Nuneaton secured three corners, but nothing materialised from them. The home team took the lead after 13 minutes of offensive play, when Knox drove the ball into the net direct from a free-kick. Although Evesham made a solitary attack, they were otherwise well held by the strong home defence.

Nuneaton still kept the upper hand but were unable to add to their score, owing chiefly to erratic shooting on the part of the forwards, until Knox, with a similar drive to that which he had previously scored, beat the opposing custodian with a perfectly directed shot from another free-kick. Both the home outside forwards, Barratt and Bright, were playing good constructive games, but their neat centres were not taken advantage of by the inside men. Sharman, who usually gives a star exhibition on the home ground, was curiously, hardly ever to the forefront.

Following the interval, Nuneaton still maintained their first-half superiority, the Evesham custodian having a worrying time. Nine minutes after the break, Nuneaton increased their

lead when Whitfield netted Bright's centre. A minute later Sharman scored a fourth goal following Pearce's neat pass.

Having obtained this commanding lead, Nuneaton were inclined to slack off, with the result that Evesham began to have a little more of the play. A determined attack led to Haines converting a centre from the left wing after 18 minutes play. A minute later, following an Evesham attack, the home upright was struck. Nuneaton rallied and what seemed a certain goal was missed when Whitfield shot over the bar.

A penalty was awarded to the home team for a foul on Pearce, but Knox drove the ball tamely into the goalkeeper's hands. Both teams were now playing a more determined game and play was more exciting. Five minutes from the close Nuneaton added a fifth goal through Pearce. Directly from the restart, Evesham got away and scored through Knight and immediately after, Spragg netted with Richardson at fault.

Sound combination and complete understanding existed between Nuneaton's half-backs and forwards with Knox and Medhurst again outstanding. Lee was the pick of the full-backs, while Richardson had a quiet game in the home goal.

Cannock Town v Nuneaton Town 22-02-1930

Cannock: Fradgley; Mason and Parkes; Brough, Gunn and Rushton; Bailey, Brookes, Bradley, Thorpe and Armishaw.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Page; Knox, Black and Brookes; Barratt, Trew, Sharman, Whitfield and Harris.

Nuneaton travelled to Cannock Town for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Play was even at the start of the game, until a penalty was awarded to the home team, but was missed by Brough. Nuneaton retaliated and Whitfield gave the visitors the lead from a pass by Sharman. Nuneaton maintained the pressure, but unsatisfactory passing and erratic shooting spoiled the majority of their efforts. After 31 minutes' play Town added to their lead, Harris scoring a sensational goal from the wing.

After the break, Nuneaton were still on the offensive, and several promising openings were missed. Play continued on in uninteresting style with Cannock gradually wearing the visitors down. Lilley made several good saves, but was easily beaten by a shot from Thorpe 25 minutes after the break. The game was characterised by end-to-end play, and continued so until the close, when with about the last kick of the match, Cannock got the equaliser.

The play did not reach a very high standard. Neither of the two forward lines were anything like effective, whilst the defensive work was not of the best. The visiting defence made a number of blunders, although the home forwards failed to take advantage of them. Lilley gave his usual excellent performance, although not too well supported by Lee and Page. Knox and Black did the most useful work in the half-back line. The forward line was moderate, with Whitfield being the most efficient member.



Nuneaton Town v Birmingham Trams 01-03-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Page; Brindley, Medhurst and Brookes; Dormer, Trew, Sharman, Whitfield and Harris.

Birmingham Trams: Brown; Turner and Milligan; Biddle, Wright and Webb; Currier, Wharton, Colley, Hunt and Allbutt.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham Trams to Manor Park for the return Birmingham League fixture, having beaten the visitors by three goals to two at King's Heath Stadium the previous October.

The game commenced in brilliant style, both teams showing smart footwork and almost perfect combination. The Trams, who took up the offensive at the start, showed a complete understanding in their midfield play, but on reaching the Nuneaton goal area, were easily thwarted by Town's defence. Retaliating, Nuneaton took the lead with the game just five minutes old, Medhurst netting with a superb drive from 30 yards' range – a shot which completely beat Brown.

After this Nuneaton maintained the pressure and gave the visiting defence a worrying time. The Trams gradually improved and were favoured with a spell of attacking, but from which, they were unable to produce anything definite. After 18 minutes of interesting and exciting football, Nuneaton added to their lead through Harris, who took the ball along the wing and centred. The ball sailed over towards the goal and Brown made a good attempt to punch the ball over the bar, but was unable to do so and the ball struck the inside of the post and rebounded into the goal. The visiting team were now mainly on the defensive, but held their position well.

Turner and Milligan were playing a sound game at full-back, both booting the ball to good purpose. Occasional breakaways by the Trams were frustrated by the home defence, who were playing in their best style. As the game progressed play began to quieten considerably and up to the interval both teams were taking things as a matter of course.

On the resumption Birmingham began with a forceful attack, but the home defence proved equal. Nuneaton maintained the pressure and their forwards were playing with determination, but were unable to add to their lead. Both forward lines were decidedly weak in shooting. Unconvincing play characterised all the forward play on the part of both teams. There was little of interest that occurred during this half except when Dormer, bursting through the opposing defence, netted Nuneaton's third goal.

Following this reverse, Trams attacked with determination, but with Nuneaton practically on the defensive, they failed to reduce the home team's substantial lead. Some three minutes before the close, the visiting team were awarded a penalty for alleged hands on the part of Page. Milligan took the kick, but owing to Lilley moving before the ball was kicked the referee ordered the kick to be retaken. This time Lilley made a brilliant full-length save.

The football, in the main, was not very inspiring with the main feature of the game being both teams defence. Medhurst was outstanding for Nuneaton and won the plaudits of the spectators on many occasions. Lee and Page played with their usual style and Lilley gave a splendid display in the Nuneaton goal.

Bournville Athletic v Nuneaton Town 08-03-1930

Bournville: Bennett; Passent and Turner; Parsons, Lane and Sheppard; Plant, Mason, Jackson, Owen and Hartnell.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Page; Brindley, Medhurst and Trew; Pick, Whitfield, Sharman, Price and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to the Model Village to take on Bournville Athletic in a Birmingham Combination fixture.

The game commenced with Nuneaton on the offensive, Pick being conspicuous with several well-directed centres, and from one of them Sharman hit the crossbar with a terrific shot. The home goal had a number of escapes, but Bennett was finally beaten when, after nearly 20 minutes play, Whitfield gave his side the lead, after Pick had centred and Bennett punched away, but only as far as Whitfield, who gave Nuneaton the lead. Pick was injured, but was able to resume after 10 minutes.

Bournville attacked on a few solitary occasions, but were well held by the Town defence. After 33 minutes play, Brindley added to Town's lead by netting from about 25 yards' range, the ball striking the underside of the bar before going in.

After the interval, the Athletic made one or two determined attempts to lower the lead, but were unable to do so. Sharman and Bennett were forced to leave the field when both were injured in a collision. Nuneaton increased their lead after seven minutes, Pick shooting with the home custodian out of position, Lane in endeavouring to effect a clearance put through his own goal. Further goals were added by Pick (2) and Bright. The home team scored their only goal of the game a few minutes from time, with Jackson heading in from a corner.

It was a surprisingly easy win, although well deserved, with Town being far superior to their opponents. Pick, Town's new outside-right, proved a great success on his first appearance, scoring three of the six goals and being involved in one of the others. There was no weak spot in the Nuneaton team, with each player giving a splendid effort. It is worth noting that Page recovered his best form.

Nuneaton Town v Halesowen 15-03-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Page; Brindley, Medhurst and Trew; Pick, Whitfield, Hatton, Price and Bright.

Halesowen: Lidsey; Hill and Wright; Whiticase, W. Guest and Armfield; T. Guest, Walker, Bushford, Mobberley and Hickman.

Nuneaton welcomed Halesowen to Manor Park for the return Birmingham League fixture, having lost 3-4 at Halesowen earlier in the season. Conditions were heavy underfoot and the pitch was covered in slush and mud.

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Nuneaton opened at great pace and soon established a commanding lead. Whitfield headed in from a centre by Bright only two minutes after the start, and then six minutes later Price netted with a fine drive, also from a Bright centre. The home forwards had the run of the play with Halesowen's defence being uncertain of themselves. The home forwards were ably supported by the half-back line with the star performer being Medhurst, his duels with Walker, the opposing inside-right, roused the spectators to the highest pitch of excitement.

Halesowen were rarely on the offensive, and even when they did reach the home area, they were easily repulsed by Town's defenders, who, considering the nature of the ground, were never at fault. Walker appeared to be the only one give trouble in the front line, and he was mastered by Medhurst. Nuneaton went further ahead when Whitfield took up a pass from Bright and beat Lidsey with an unstoppable shot. Two minutes later the home team again added to their score, Whitfield again converting a centre by Bright, thus Nuneaton's first four goals came as a result of the well-directed centring and clever work of Bright.

Whitfield had a goal disallowed before Medhurst earned applause when he picked up the ball and dribbled through the Halesowen defence with remarkable ease and went on to beat Lidsey at close range. Shortly before the interval Whitfield netted his fourth goal with a shot from twelve yards.

After the break, Nuneaton continued to dominate and Whitfield added another goal when, after receiving the ball from Price, he beat a defender and went on to shoot past Lidsey. Although seven goals down Halesowen would not admit themselves beaten and plodded away with some amount of success, and although they did not score, they opened the game out considerably. Lilley, who up to now had not touched the ball more than once or twice was called upon frequently. Nuneaton still retained their determination, and a little after half-an-hour from the interval, Pick dashed in from the wing and netted. No further scoring marked the remainder of the game.

Hatton, who deputised for Sharman at centre-forward was little in evidence and failed to combine with his fellow forwards to any advantage. Bright gave a splendid display on the wing after an absence of some weeks. The defence played well to a man.

Nuneaton Town v Atherstone Town 22-03-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Page; Brindley, Medhurst and Trew; Pick, Whitfield, Sharman, Price and Bright.

Atherstone: Kester; Wall and Harrison; Higham, Bird and Finch; Albrighton, Hall, Tuckley, Stirland and Cross.

Nuneaton welcomed Atherstone Town to Manor Park for the final of the Tamworth Charity Cup. Sharman came back at centre-forward and the Atherstone team included former Nuneaton players Tuckley and Higham.

The game commenced with Nuneaton on the offensive, Kester having to punch away a shot from Bright. End-to-end play followed with neither team showing any marked ability in front of goal. The visitors played a robust game, and with the wind behind them kept the home defence constantly on the alert. Albrighton struck the crossbar with a well-directed centre, with Lilley looking on. Kester was playing a splendid game for Adders and had already brought off a number of clearances.

Nuneaton opened the scoring when Bright ran the ball along the wing and centred for Sharman to score from a splendid opening. The visitors retaliated and their determination was rewarded when a blunder on the part of Page enabled Tuckley to gain possession and score the equaliser, with Lilley having little chance of saving. Up to the interval both teams made determined efforts to secure the lead, but both the home and visiting defences were sound.

After the break Nuneaton won a corner, from which Trew shot high over the bar. Kester brought off a splendid one-handed save from a shot by Whitfield after a defender, in endeavouring to clear, had misjudged the ball and hit the crossbar with his clearance. A penalty was awarded to Nuneaton after Harrison scooped the ball up with his hands following a scuffle in the goalmouth. Whitfield took the kick and had little trouble in beating Kester.

This reverse put new vigour into Atherstone, who played with determination. Nuneaton, on the other hand, seemed content with their one goal lead. With about 11 minutes to play, Tuckley scored an equaliser, heading in from a centre by Cross. Nuneaton tried to regain the lead, but were unable to do so.

The football displayed was rather unconvincing. Nuneaton were disappointing in view of last week's game, and they seemed to have lost that determination and resourcefulness which gained them such a great victory over Halesowen. The forward line was quite as ineffective as they were effective the previous week, and the half-back line were unable to combine to any advantage with the forwards.

Perhaps it was the fact that Atherstone adopted different tactics – the long passing game – that put the home team off their game. Atherstone, for that matter, did not produce any convincing style. Although served by a good defence, their forwards were weak in finishing, and erratic shooting generally brought a determined midfield move to a close.

Walsall LMS v Nuneaton Town 28-03-1930

Walsall LMS: Russell; Whitehouse and Walters; D. Smith, Wainwright and Horobin; Bakewell, Kelly, Stockhouse, J. Smith and Pyne.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Knox and Trew; Pick, Whitfield, Dormer, Price and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to Walsall to face Walsall LMS in a Birmingham Combination fixture. Nuneaton were without full-back Page.

The game opened in end-to-end fashion, but neither forward

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line was equal to the opposition defence. A Nuneaton attack was brought to a halt by an offside decision before Lilley was beaten following a good move by the home side, only for the goal to be disallowed for offside. Whitfield made a number of efforts to open up the game for Town, but was unsuccessful, and the game continued on in unconvincing style.

There was little interesting football to be seen in the first half and countless opportunities were missed by both sides. The home side were a little more aggressive, but were met by a stronger defence.

In the second half a penalty was awarded to the home side, but Lilley made a tremendous save from Wainwright. This was about the only exciting incident of the half. The Nuneaton wing forwards received little support, as the combination play between the halves and the forwards was of a poor standard. The end came with the home team on the offensive, but with apparently little hope of scoring.

Nuneaton were best served by Lilley, who gave a splendid display in goal, and Lee, who played a strong game at full-back. Medhurst at centre-half and Sharman at centre-forward, played much below their usual form.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City A 30-03-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Page; Knox, Brookes and Darlaston; Barratt, Brindley, Whitfield, Price and Hurst.

Birmingham A: Slater; Thornton and Bennett; Stoker, Coxford and Galsthorpe; Hutchinson, Lane, Fillingham, Harvey and Spencer.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham City A to Manor Park for a semi-final tie in the Leamington Hospital Cup.

Nuneaton started on the offensive, but met with a strong and resolute defence and were beaten back and forced to defend. The Birmingham forwards were well supported by their halves and the visitors took the lead after 13 minutes, when Fillingham netted with a fierce drive. The home side were constantly on the defensive and Birmingham further increased their lead, when a blunder by Page allowed Fillingham to win possession and score with ease.

The home forwards were weak in front of goal, but they received very little assistance from the half-backs, who indulged in some wild and aimless passing. It was mainly due to the splendid defensive work of Lee and Page that Birmingham were unable to further increase their lead before the interval.

On the resumption, Birmingham still maintained their first half superiority and secured their third and final goal, Lane beating Lilley with a good shot.

Nuneaton were obviously outplayed throughout the second half, and although presented with a number of openings, the forwards failed to take advantage of the opportunities offered to them. Price and Brindley were the only two home forwards who really produced any definite form, but without the support of their fellow forwards they were overwhelmed

by a strong opposing defence. No further scoring took place during the second half.

The Birmingham eleven were of all round excellence, and throughout the game held Nuneaton well in hand.

Nuneaton Town v Redditch

05-04-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Page; Darlaston, Brookes and Knox; Barratt, Whitfield, Brindley, Price and Bright.

Redditch: Hearn; Winnett and Thomas; Carmell, Jeavons and Court; Rankle, Morgan, Dunn, Phillips and Leadbeater.

Nuneaton welcomed Redditch to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. Pick and Medhurst were unable to play and Barratt took the place of the former, while Brookes came in at centre-half, with Knox at right-half and Darlaston at left-half. The conditions underfoot were not conducive to good football, with the rain that fell before the match making the ground treacherous and the ball slippery.

The game started with Nuneaton on the offensive. The combination displayed by the half-backs and forwards was admirable, and culminated in Brindley giving the home side the lead ten minutes from the start. Taking a pass from Price, he took deliberate aim from long range and netted with a brilliant shot which had Hearn completely beaten. Redditch had been mainly on the defensive up to this point, broke through the home defence but finished weakly.

Rankle was outstanding on the left and Page had to be ever on the alert. The game became characterised by midfield play as Town seemed to be gradually losing their superiority, whilst Redditch began to attack determinedly, obtaining the equaliser through Leadbeater, who forced his way through the opposing defence and netted with a shot which gave Lilley little or no chance. Whitfield missed a penalty, but ten minutes from the interval, Town again took the lead, Whitfield netting after Hearn had saved from Brindley. The first half was brought to an exciting close, when the Redditch forwards missed an easy opportunity, and Whitfield hit the woodwork.

On the resumption the visitors took up the offensive and obtained the equaliser after just four minutes play in the second half when Morgan beat Lilley with an oblique shot. Nuneaton retaliated and eight minutes later they took the lead, Whitfield heading past Hearn from Barratt's centre. Redditch came back again and Nuneaton were forced back on defence. The visitors' determination was rewarded when following a centre from Rankle, Lilley came out of goal, but mistimed the ball, allowing Phillips to gain possession and touch the ball into an unguarded net. Nuneaton made valiant efforts to regain the lead, but were unable to do so.

The home team's chief fault lay with the half-back line. Brookes was obviously unaccustomed to the position of pivot and was uncertain and erratic. He received little support from the wing-halves. Brindley gave an admirable display at centre-forward. The applause he received for his determined efforts was well deserved.



Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 07-04-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Willmott; Darlison, Black and Johnson; Pick, Hatton, Brindley, Prince and Harris.

Hinckley: Tucker; Lowe and Tilbury; Wesson, Callaghan and Mann; Clack, Wale, Simpson, Turner and Hill.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park on Monday evening for the final of the Chapel End Nursing Cup. Town fielded a team comprising mostly of reserve team players, while Hinckley were well represented.

The first goal came after 20 minutes when Pick dribbled through to score after almost losing the ball in a scramble. Clack put the visitors on equal terms five minutes later, following a Hinckley rush. Play in the second half was very interesting, and both goalkeepers were found plenty of employment. Nuneaton went ahead through Brindley, who headed a smart goal, from a perfect centre by Pick, but Hinckley again drew level through Hill, who cut in from the left wing and drove the ball well out of Lilley's reach.

Nuneaton Town v Rugby Town 12-04-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Brookes and Page; Johnson, Trew and Brindley; Dormer, Whitfield, Sharman, Price and Bright.

Rugby: Wale; Hickman and Jenkin; J. Buckley, Gilbert and Kind; Reeve, Goodyer, Gregory, A. Buckley and Grainger.

Nuneaton welcomed Rugby Town to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Hospital Cup.

When Nuneaton attacked, Whitfield and Price both missed easy chances before Wale, the Rugby keeper, twice saved from Whitfield. Rugby then hit back and were dangerous at close quarters, but Lilley twice made good saves. Nuneaton took the lead after 33 minutes, when Price headed into the net from Whitfield's centre. Five minutes later during a Rugby attack, Gregory was presented with a golden opportunity of equalising, but shot into Lilley's hands from three yards out.

The Rugby backs frustrated several home raids, but just before the interval Price scored, crashing the ball into the roof of the net, although hampered by a visiting back. Price completed his hat-trick a minute from the interval, converting a penalty awarded for handball.

On the resumption, Price was conspicuous, following a neat home offensive movement, and later Lilley brought off a splendid full-length save from Buckley. Dormer made several determined efforts to force his way through the opposition defence but was unsuccessful. A movement initiated by Whitfield saw that player send over with a neat first timer.

Rugby burst through, but Lilley checked them nicely. There was a scramble in front of the home goal, but Page eventually relieved, and 20 minutes after the interval, Bright got away, and centred for Dormer to head against the post. Dormer gathered the ball again and shot into an open net with Wale out of his goal.

Rugby now had a good share of the game, but Lilley was not seriously tested. Whitfield and Dormer were in evidence for Nuneaton, and then Rugby pressed strongly and with ten minutes to go Gregory scored for the visitors, with a good shot that gave Lilley no chance.

Nuneaton Town v Coventry City 14-04-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Brookes and Page; Johnson, Black and Trew; Dormer, Brindley, Hatton, Whitfield and Bright.

Coventry: R. Hornsby; Plummer and Tilford; Stokes, Dinsdale and Hewitt; Alson, Starsmore, Bratby, Kirton and Bowden.

Nuneaton welcomed Coventry City to Manor Park in the semi-final of the Coventry Nursing Cup. Nuneaton fielded several reserves, but Coventry, on the other hand, fielded their full London Combination team, which included a number of first team players in Dinsdale, Starsmore, Stokes and Bowden.

The game commenced with Town pressing strongly, and before Coventry could settle, the home team had taken the lead, Hatton netting with a low ground shot from a pass by Dormer. Coventry retaliated, but were unable to master the home defence. The play fluctuated but Town were the more dangerous. Whitfield was the initiator of a number of clever raids and received splendid support from his fellow forwards.

Following a Coventry movement, Page was fairly charged by a visiting forward, and in falling dislocated his collar bone. He was forced to retire and his position was taken by Black, Trew going to centre-half and Brindley to left-half. Coventry came more into the game and a continued offensive movement resulted in Starsmore sending in a lightning shot from the edge of the area, which gave Lilley little or no chance. The interval came with Nuneaton mainly on the defensive.

Throughout the second half Coventry were continually besieging the home goal, but their forwards were held by a masterly defence. Thrills were plentiful and the spectators were constantly applauding the determined efforts of the home defence in withstanding the repeated onslaughts of the visitors. The close of the game came with Coventry still unable to get the lead, and with Nuneaton making an occasional breakaway, but with only four forwards, they were easily held by the Coventry defence.

The conditions were in no way conducive to good football, the fall of rain prior to and during the match making the ground treacherous and the ball slippery. Nevertheless, Nuneaton adapted themselves to the conditions and played the long passing game throughout the first half, which threatened to overwhelm their opponents. Coventry for their part were content with short passing movements, a style of play which failed completely.

The feature of Nuneaton's play was the brilliant defensive work. The forced retirement of Page led to a disorganised forward line, and extra work was put on the defence. So well did they display their ability that although Coventry were literally shooting in during the second half, they were unable

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to score a single goal. Not a single Town defender could be picked out for criticism, each one playing inspiring football.

Birmingham City A v Nuneaton Town 19-04-1930

Birmingham City A: Slater; Thornton and Stainton; Stokes, Barton and Gelsthorpe; Harvey, Austin, Maton, Robinson and Hutchinson.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Johnson, Trew and Brindley; Pick, Whitfield, Ison, Price and Holdsworth.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham City A to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The game was an away fixture, but had been transferred to Manor Park.

The first half saw Nuneaton have just as much of the game as Birmingham, and a little more stability in front of goal might have enabled them to cross over with a goal lead. The home team employed similar tactics to those used in the match against Coventry on the previous Monday. They swung the ball about well, but the forwards did not seem to settle down and many good opportunities went begging. Birmingham on the other hand, adopted neater and more constructive methods, which against a strong and resourceful defence, failed completely. The visitors' midfield play, considering the underfoot conditions, was exceptionally good, but when the home area was reached their forwards were met by a masterly defence. The Birmingham defence also played a strong game, and were generally the masters of the home forwards.

It was not until 37 minutes that Nuneaton took the lead. Neat work by Whitfield and Pick enabled Ison to gain possession, and without a single defender near him the centre-forward took careful aim and easily beat Slater with a low drive.

Following the resumption, Nuneaton continued to have a fair share of the play until after 15 minutes, Birmingham obtained an equaliser. This goal came as a result of a free-kick, awarded against Brindley for an unfair charge. From the kick, Lilley tipped the ball onto the bar, but it dropped at the feet of Austin, who made no mistake in hooking the ball into the net.

From that moment a change came over the game with Birmingham asserting themselves to such an extent that they went on to score four more goals in the space of 12 minutes. Of these, three were netted by Austin and one by Maton. Town's attack was disorganised and lacking in forcefulness, and the defence began to waver, and with the successive besigement of their goal they broke down. Birmingham added their sixth and last goal some ten minutes from the close, Lilley failing to gather the ball. Maton took possession and netted.

Rugby Town v Nuneaton Town 21-04-1930

Rugby: Herbert; Hickman and Jenkin; J. Buckley, Gilbert and Kind; Reeve, A. Buckley, Gregory, Gisbourne and England.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Johnson, Trew and Brindley; Holdsworth, Pick, Ison, Whitfield and Bright.

Nuneaton travelled to Sheepy Road, Atherstone, to face Rugby Town in the final of the Atherstone Nursing Cup.

The game was end-to-end at the start, with each defence being called on in turn. Gradually Rugby obtained superiority, but the Nuneaton defence held well, and throughout the first half, although both teams made determined efforts to score, were unable to do so. Rugby possessed an able forward line and also a strong defence.

After the break, the game continued to be evenly contested until after 12 minutes' play, Rugby took the lead through A. Buckley, who netted with a grand shot just inside the post. Shortly after, Bright was forced to retire through injury, and with only ten men, Nuneaton were constantly on the defensive. After 19 minutes Gregory touched into the net from a pass by Reeve and increased Rugby's lead. Bright returned to the fray before Rugby's final goal, which came some four minutes from the close, when following a determined attacking movement, England beat Lilley with a fast drive. Nuneaton reduced the lead almost on time, Ison netting from Bright's pass. Nuneaton gave a moderate display, their attack being indifferent in passing. The half-back line was also disappointing.

Nuneaton Town v Rugby Town 21-04-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Johnson, Black and Brindley; Pick, Stillman, Darlison, Whitfield and Holdsworth.

Rugby: Herbert; Hickman and Jenkin; J. Buckley, Gilbert and Kind; Reeves, A. Buckley, Gregory, Gisbourne and England.

Nuneaton welcomed Rugby Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture for the second of three consecutive games between the clubs.

Darlison scored Nuneaton's goal in a 1-1 draw.

Rugby Town v Nuneaton Town 22-04-1930

Rugby: Herbert; Hickman and Jenkin; J. Buckley, Gilbert and Kind; Reeve, A. Buckley, Gregory, Gisbourne and England.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Brookes; Johnson, Trew and Knox; Dormer, Whitfield, Barratt, Hurst and Holdsworth.

Nuneaton Town met Rugby Town for the third time within two days at Rugby on Tuesday afternoon. The home team failed to produce their previous form and were rather fortunate to share the points in a 1-1 draw. Gregory scored for the home side prior to the interval, and afterwards Trew scored for the visitors. Nuneaton's poor finishing prevented them securing the full points, though Herbert played well in the home goal.

Nuneaton Town v Walsall LMS 26-04-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Johnson, Trew and Knox; Dormer, Whitfield, Brindley, Hurst and Bright.

Walsall LMS: Lewis; Whitehouse and Horan; Odoms, A. Wainwright and Pyne; Bakewell, J. Smith, Walters, Welch and Shires.

Nuneaton welcomed Walsall LMS to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The crowd only numbered about 4-500.



Nuneaton secured the lead after just three minutes. Dormer centred for Hurst to fling himself forwards and touch the ball past Lewis. Following this, Nuneaton displayed marked superiority over their opponents, who were constantly on the defensive. A solitary breakaway by the visiting forwards ended in failure, owing to their weak finishing and the home side's strong defence. Town asserted themselves again and added to their lead after 14 minutes, Whitfield neatly converting a pass from Brindley. Three minutes later, Whitfield scored again for Nuneaton with an easy opening. Bright centred and Lewis punched the ball out to Whitfield, who gave the visiting custodian no chance, with a well-directed shot. Nuneaton maintained their superiority and one or two opportunities were missed. Lewis made a number of saves from the forceful home forwards. A breakaway by the visiting forwards saw Welch gain possession of the ball. At the same time the opposing backs moved forward, and it seemed as if Welch was offside, but the referee ignored the appeal, and with Town's defence standing, Welch went through to score easily.

Nuneaton retaliated with determination, but although presented with easy opportunities for scoring, the forwards failed to take advantage of them. Close on the interval a movement initiated by Trew resulted in Brindley passing to Hurst, who netted from long range with a brilliant shot.

Straight after the break, Nuneaton attacked and within a minute had added further to their lead. Dormer first shot, and Lewis saved, but without clearing properly, and Hurst touched the ball into the net. Throughout the rest of the half, Walsall were constantly on the defensive and further goals were added to Nuneaton's score by Dormer and Brindley. The latter fully deserved to score after his many determined efforts.

Taken on the whole, Walsall were a much inferior team to Nuneaton. Against the strong opposing defence the visiting forwards could make no headway, and their midfield movements invariably came to nothing. Their defence failed to hold the home forwards, who showed a marked improvement on their previous week's play.

Nuneaton Town v Gresley Rovers	28-04-1930
<p>Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Trew and Johnson; Dormer, Whitfield, Hatton, Hurst and Bright.</p> <p>Gresley: Waring; Wheeldon and Mellor; Whitacre, Mee and Finch; Hough, Richards, Brown, Rowley and Davis.</p>	

Gresley Rovers visited Manor Park on Monday evening for the final home game of the Birmingham Combination season. The home team contained no less than six reserves, with Lilley and Knox being injured in the previous match.

Gresley opened the game with a whirlwind rush and all but penetrated the home defence, but the weak finishing of the opposing forwards resulted in the ball being returned to midfield. Town took up the offensive and took the lead when Waring was penalised for carrying. Dormer took the free-kick and passed to Trew, who easily beat Waring with a high shot.

Opportunities were missed by both sides, especially by Nuneaton, who were now favoured with most of the play. Waring just managed to tip a high shot from Bright back into play, and had to save again when Hatton, with an open goal, shot straight at Waring, while he was lying on the ground. Dormer was outstanding on the right wing, as time after time, he completely beat the Gresley defence, although his centring was none too accurate.

Whitfield was also prominent with some good passing movements, which should have been used to better advantage. Following a large number of escapes for the visitors, mainly due to the brilliant keeping of Waring, Nuneaton extended their lead, following a scuffle in front of the Gresley goal which led to Bright centring. Waring punched the ball out to Johnson, who passed to Hurst. The inside-left in turn passed to Hatton, who netted from close range. There were no further goals before half-time.

Immediately after the break Town attacked with determination and scored again when Whitfield put in a well-directed cross-shot that gave Waring no chance. Throughout the rest of the half Gresley were constantly pushed back on the defensive, and were unable to even cross the half-way line, but despite the fact that Nuneaton had all three half-backs playing as forwards and with Brookes well up in the Gresley area, Nuneaton were unable to add to their lead until some five minutes from the close, when Whitfield netted from close in, following Bright's centre.

Evesham Town v Nuneaton Town	03-05-1930
<p>Evesham: Barnett; Stokes and Spragg; Davis, Johnson and Moore; Bacon, Allan, Tomkins, Knight and Millerchip.</p> <p>Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Paul; Johnson, Trew and Darlison; Dormer, Whitfield, Hatton, Holdsworth and Bright.</p>	

Nuneaton travelled to Evesham Town for their final Birmingham Combination game of the season. The Nuneaton side included seven reserve team players.

Evesham were first to attack, but were driven back by Nuneaton's defence. The visitors retaliated and Holdsworth skimmed the bar with a lightning shot, and Trew drove the ball just wide immediately afterwards. Nuneaton maintained their attacks, but weak finishing spoiled their efforts, although they had some difficulty in keeping their feet on the slippery surface.

Evesham took up the offensive, but their forwards were also weak in the finishing department. Bacon missed with an easy scoring opportunity before Richardson made a number of superb clearances, but was beaten by Spragg from a penalty kick awarded against Trew for a foul. Nuneaton hit straight back and equalised, Whitfield netting with a well hit shot into the corner of the net.

On the resumption, Nuneaton were awarded a penalty in the first minute, when Whitfield was brought down by Spragg.

From the penalty kick, Trew gave Nuneaton the lead. End to end movement characterised the play for some time until Trew deliberately handled a shot from Tomkins. Spragg beat Richardson with the shot. Two minutes from the close, Evesham took the lead, when Richardson failed to hold a shot from Allen, resulting in Tomkins taking possession and netting.

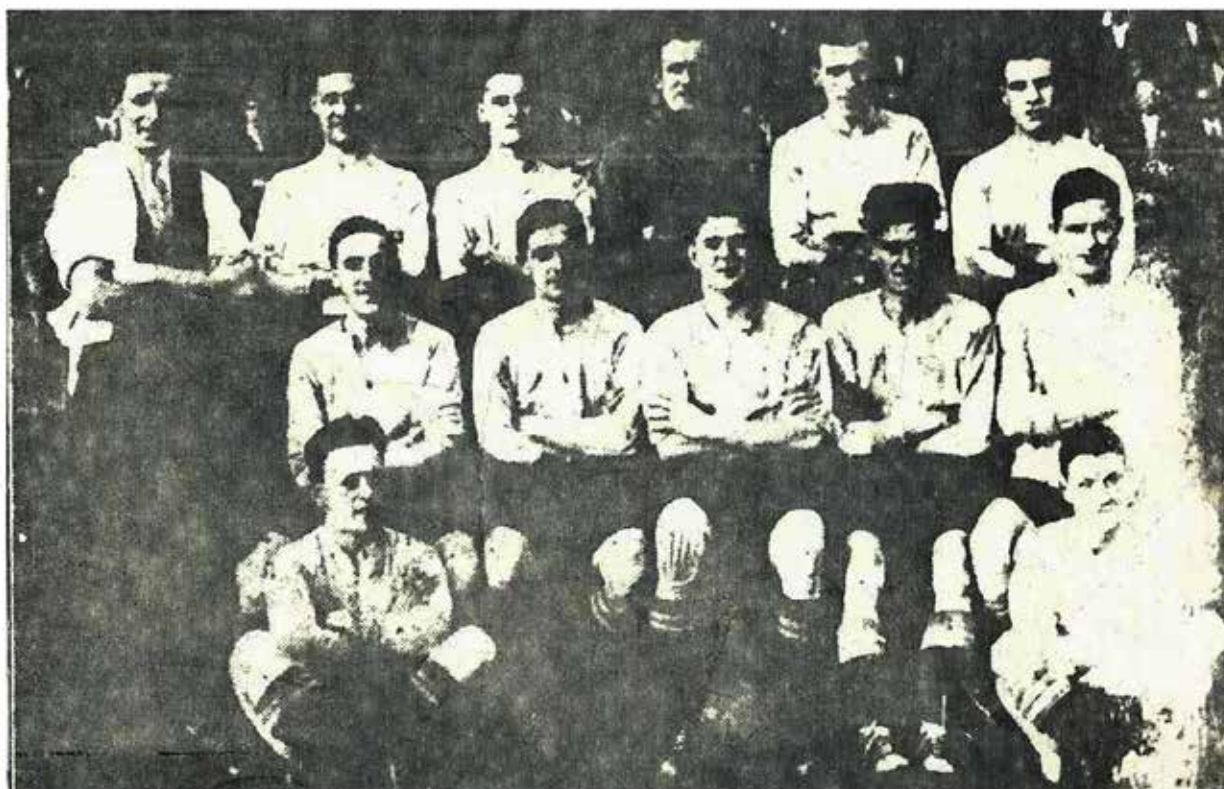
Whitfield, Bright and Dormer were the pick of the Nuneaton forwards. The half-backs played excellently, and Richardson was well backed up by Lee and Paul.

Birmingham Combination Final Table 1929-1930

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Market Harboro' Town	34	24	6	4	128	53	54
Birmingham "A"	34	24	5	5	112	45	53
Evesham Town	34	21	3	10	101	61	45
Darlaston	34	19	6	9	93	66	44
Redditch	34	18	7	9	99	69	43
Nuneaton Town	34	17	7	10	103	61	41
Rugby Town	34	17	4	13	92	82	38
Bloxwich Strollers	34	15	6	13	78	76	36
Leamington Town	34	15	5	14	83	69	35
Gresley Rovers	34	13	5	16	62	66	31
Atherstone Town	34	11	5	18	64	94	27
Walsall LMS	34	9	7	18	60	90	25
Bromsgrove Rovers	34	11	3	20	60	93	25
Hinckley United	34	11	3	20	78	128	25
Bournville Athletic	34	9	7	18	59	101	25
Birmingham Trams	34	9	6	19	62	87	24
Halesowen Town	34	10	4	20	67	95	24
Cannock Town	34	6	5	23	54	119	17

Mr. F. Perry To Continue As Secretary

Mr Fred Perry, who has rendered excellent service to Nuneaton Town FC during the past few seasons as honorary general secretary, has been asked by the directors of the club to continue in office for the next twelve months, and has acceded to their request.



Nuneaton Town 1929-30

Back row: G. Paul (trainer), Trew Johnson, Thompson, -----, Medhurst, Hurst, Brookes

Middle row: Barratt, Whitfield, Tickle, Hurst, Page

Front row: Lee and Bright.



Walsall Phoenix—Extra Preliminary Round

Nuneaton welcomed Walsall Phoenix to Manor Park for an Extra Preliminary Round FA Cup tie.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Lee and Page; Trew, Medhurst and Brookes; Barratt, Whitfield, Tuckley, Price and Bright.

Walsall: Emery; Boughey and Haynes; Warner, Smith and Till; Walshe, Whitticase, Lawrence, Whitehouse and Goodman.

Phoenix attacked first and Richardson saved a low shot. Nuneaton then pressed and from a centre by Trew, Price sent in a rapid shot which Emery saved. After a short time Walsall attacked again, but were baulked by Richardson, who cleared smartly.

Most of the play was in the Walsall half with occasional bursts by the visitors, which were repulsed by Nuneaton's good defence. Barratt made an excellent centre, but Tuckley was not quite in position.

Nuneaton's first goal came after about 18 minutes, when Bright was fouled and took a free-kick near the corner flag, from which Whitfield neatly headed in. Town scored again after 26 minutes when Haynes put through his own goal when pressed by Tuckley.

Price hit the far post with a smashing drive, and from the rebound, Whitfield tested Emery, who made a good save. With three minutes to go before the interval, Town scored a third, which was due to an opening brilliantly made by Whitfield, from whose centre Tuckley headed into the net. The home side led 3-0 at the break.

In the second period Town scored no less than ten goals, Bright, Whitfield, Medhurst and Tuckley all played well. Phoenix reduced the lead about five minutes after the break, through Whitehouse and about two minutes later Tuckley hooked the ball over his head to make the score 4-1.

Ten minutes after the break Whitfield sent Tuckley through for the latter to score easily with an open goal. About

two minutes later Bright had the Phoenix defence properly beaten and netted with a brilliant shot.

Nuneaton scored a seventh goal 22 minutes after the interval when Medhurst put the ball in to Price, who scored with an unerring shot. Whitfield put the home team further ahead, while Price added another and Medhurst took the score into double figures. Tuckley then glanced a pass from Whitfield into the net. Phoenix mounted a rare raid and Whitticase scored, before Price scored again and Trew registered the home side's thirteenth goal.

Hednesford Town— Preliminary Round

Nuneaton welcomed Hednesford Town of the Birmingham League to Manor Park for a Preliminary Round FA Cup tie.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Trew; Barratt, Pearce, Tuckley, Whitfield and Bright.

Hednesford: Bradley; Wardle and Smith; Galley, Lyons and Hickin; Gooch, Evans, Wilding, Buttery and Alldritt.

Nuneaton won the toss and elected to play with the wind and pressed from the start. A miskick on the part of Wardle let Bright in, but nothing materialised. Tuckley all but scored after a pass from Barratt and Nuneaton took the lead after eight minutes, Tuckley heading in from Bright's corner.

Tuckley came close to heading another goal shortly after. Hednesford mounted a solitary attack and won a fruitless corner before Whitfield added to Town's score after 21 minutes, netting with a splendid high shot from long range. Nuneaton were shooting in at this stage, but failed to find the net.

Lilley was tested for the first time after 35 minutes, Buttery sending in a rather tame shot. Nuneaton's third goal came five minutes' later, Pearce netting with a fine drive which gave Bradley no chance.

Hednesford pressed strongly after half-

time, with the wind behind them, but failed to finish their movements. Evans was a dangerous forward and received some good passes from Gooch.

Nuneaton attacked after a neat movement and Tuckley sent in a good shot, followed by a drive from Pearce. The visitors returned to the attack and Lilley had brought off a couple of splendid saves, before Evans found the net with a fast and well-directed shot after 15 minutes of the second half.

Hednesford had an escape, when following a home attack, Whitfield sent in a terrific shot, which hit a defender and deflected onto the crossbar. As is usual in a cup-tie match, doubtful play crept in, with the worst offender being Smith, the Hednesford left-back.

Barratt returned the compliment and it resulted in Wesson getting injured. After receiving treatment he was able to continue. A needless foul by Barratt gave the visitors their second goal, Evans heading into the net from Gooch's free-kick.

Nuneaton attacked and Pearce made a good solo run, followed by a good shot which struck a defender and went wide. Up until the final whistle, Hednesford were mainly on the attack with Lilley and Brookes being prominent in saving at critical stages. A strong wind spoiled what would have undoubtedly proved to be one of the best games of the season on the home ground, but despite this, some thrilling football was seen.

Oakengates Town— 1st Qualifying Round

Nuneaton travelled to Oakengates for a 1st Qualifying Round FA Cup tie.

Oakengates: Vaughan; Hall and Dean; Beeston, Chambers and Carter; Upton, R. Pearce, Gough, J. Pearce and Massey.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wesson, Medhurst and Trew; Barratt, Pearce, Tuckley, Whitfield and Price.

The game was played at a fast pace, despite the fact that rain fell heavily



throughout the game. The early exchanges favoured Oakengates and Lee was called upon to clear on two occasions. Nuneaton retaliated, and from a centre by Barratt, Vaughan had to punch clear. Gough opened the scoring for the home side after six minutes, which was the outcome of brilliant work by Upton and Massey.

Nuneaton hit back and Tuckley caused the home keeper to concede a corner, which was cleared. Another shot by Tuckley went wide and Trew put in a splendid shot from a free-kick, and then Pearce shot wide with a first-timer. Shortly after Nuneaton were awarded a penalty when Tuckley was brought down in the area.

Tuckley took the penalty kick himself and planted the ball well into the corner of the net. Town had a fair share of the play, with Pearce, Barratt and Tuckley being prominent. Price made a nice run through, but a promising opening was spoiled by Tuckley being offside. The home side again became aggressive and Brookes neatly stemmed two attacks.

At the other end, Pearce tested Vaughan with a high shot. A fast and clever Nuneaton move ended in Price driving over with a first-timer. The visitors were having most of the play at

this stage and were prominent on the right and in the centre, with Tuckley always on the lookout for a chance.

Just before the half-time break, Lilley was called upon to punch away on three separate occasions from under the bar, following corners. At the break the score was 1-1.

Nuneaton showed up well after the break, and a pass by Tuckley just failed to reach Whitfield. Two corners to Oakengates were cleared and then the home team took the lead with a penalty, five minutes after the break, after R. Pearce was brought down by Lee. Chambers converted from the penalty spot, although Lilley touched the ball, but could not prevent it going into the net.

The home side pressed hard after taking the lead, but the visitors' defence was sound, although Medhurst was rather slow, perhaps due to the conditions. Nuneaton made several abortive efforts to break away, with Whitfield putting in several grand passes, which Price was unable to utilise. J. Pearce shot over for Oakengates with an open goal, after getting through the Nuneaton defence.

Trew put in a superb shot from well out towards the touch line, which severely

tested the home keeper, Vaughan. Then a good centre by Price went begging. Tuckley drew out the keeper and centred from the near the line, but one of the home backs deflected the ball just before it reached Whitfield, who stood in front of the net with the keeper out of position.

A chance of equalising was missed when Pearce was a fraction too late in getting to the ball in front of goal. Oakengates put on strong pressure again, Lee keeping them out in style. J. Pearce missed a chance of scoring for the home side towards the close.

It was a keenly contested game which the home team won by the odd goal in three. The visitors lacked finishing power, although the defence performed well.

Whitfield was the outstanding forward for Nuneaton, whilst Lee played a great game at full-back. Both defences were severely tested at different times. Tuckley did some good work at centre, but had very few real chances. Pearce was not quite at his best.

The two wing-halves both played well, but Medhurst did not seem quite at home on the heavy ground. Both the backs played up to form and Lilley was not often seriously tested.

Football Finance

The Position of Coventry and Nuneaton

Mr J. A. McIntyre, the secretary-manager of the Coventry City Football Club, Ltd., has sent us a copy of the S.O.S. he is broadcasting. "It is," he says, "the intention of the present management to lift the club out of the struggling and chaotic state in which it has existed since its inception. There can be no doubt that a corner in the existence of the Club has been turned and it is now on the road to success, but a millstone of debt has been, and still is, the greatest handicap on progress."

In asking the Coventry public for donations the writer points out that to the traders of Coventry a good football club is invaluable. If the City Football Club ceased to exist, at least 10,000 people would leave the city on Saturday afternoons during the football season, which would mean

a loss of £5,000 weekly to the tradespeople, because this amount, which is a conservative estimate, would be spent in other towns."

Mr McIntyre's letter again confirms the well-known fact that Association football is now a highly commercialised undertaking, and in reference to the recent correspondence in this journal, this perhaps explains one of the reasons why Public and Secondary Schools exhibit a preference for the Rugby code...

...it is well to recall that Nuneaton Town had an experience analogous to that of Coventry City. When the Nuneaton fans raised the cry of "better football", Nuneaton officials were tempted to enter the Southern League and promptly lost £3,000. The result of confining their aspirations to the Birmingham Combination proved a financial success, and the officials were enabled to make arrangements for re-purchasing their own freehold...

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Birmingham Combination: Fixtures, Results & Scorers- 1929-30

Nuneaton Score First

Date	Opposition	Competition	Venue	Score	Scorers
Aug. 31	Birmingham City A	League	Home	1-1	Tuckley
Sept. 2	Hinckley United	NCC Final	Home	1-2	Tuckley
7	Walsall Phoenix	FAC E-P	Home	13-2	Tuckley (4), Price (3), Whitfield (2), Trew, Bright, Medhurst, Own Goal
9	Atherstone Town	NHC S-F	Home	4-1	Tuckley (2), Whitfield (2)
14	Redditch	League	Away	2-1	Whitfield, Tuckley
16	Leamington Town	BSC1	Home	1-2	Trew
21	Hednesford Town	FAC Prelim	Home	3-2	Tuckley, Whitfield, Pearce
28	Hinckley United	ANC S-F	Home	4-1	Tuckley (3), Whitfield
Oct. 5	Oakengates Town	FAC 1Q	Away	1-2	Tuckley
12	Bournville Athletic	League	Home	5-0	Tuckley (2), Whitfield (2), Own Goal
19	Birmingham Trams	League	Away	3-2	Whitfield, Dormer, Own Goal
26	Cannock Town	League	Home	4-1	Tuckley (3), Whitfield
Nov. 2	Leicester Nomads	LSC 1	Home	7-0	Barratt (2), Hurst (2), Tuckley, Trew, Own Goal
9	Leamington Town	League	Home	6-1	Tuckley (2), Medhurst (2), Trew, Price
16	Bromsgrove Rovers	League	Away	1-2	Whitfield
23	Halesowen	League	Away	3-4	Tuckley, Whitfield, Bright
30	Bloxwich Strollers	League	Away	2-4	Bancroft, Trew
Dec. 7	Market Harborough	League	Home	1-1	Wesson
14	Atherstone Town	League	Away	1-2	Bancroft
21	Darlaston	League	Home	7-0	Whitfield (3), Sharman (2), Barratt, Own Goal
25	Hinckley United	League	Away	3-2	Sharman (3)
26	Hinckley United	League	Home	3-1	Sharman, Wesson, Brindley
28	Darlaston	League	Away	2-4	Sharman (2)
Jan. 4	Atherstone Town	League	Home	4-1	Whitfield (2), Sharman, Brindley
11	Market Harborough	League	Away	2-2	Wesson, Medhurst
18	Bloxwich Strollers	League	Home	5-2	Sharman (3), Whitfield (2)
25	Gresley Rovers	League	Away	1-2	Pearce
Feb. 1	Bromsgrove Rovers	League	Home	4-2	Sharman (3), Hurst
8	Leamington Town	League	Away	0-4	
15	Evesham Town	League	Home	5-3	Knox (2), Whitfield, Sharman, Pearce
22	Cannock Town	League	Away	2-2	Whitfield, Harris
Mar. 1	Birmingham Trams	League	Home	3-0	Medhurst, Harris, Dormer
8	Bournville Athletic	League	Away	6-1	Pick (3), Whitfield, Brindley, Bright
15	Halesowen	League	Home	8-0	Whitfield (5), Price, Pick, Medhurst
22	Atherstone Town	TCC Final	Home	2-2	Sharman, Whitfield
28	Walsall LMS	League	Away	0-0	
30	Birmingham City A	LHC S-F	Home	0-3	
Apr. 5	Redditch	League	Home	3-3	Whitfield (2), Brindley
7	Hinckley United	CEC Final		2-2	Pick, Brindley
12	Rugby Town	NHC Final	Home	4-1	Price (3), Dormer
14	Coventry City	CNC S-F	Home	1-1	Hatton
19	Birmingham City A	League	Away	1-6	Ison (match played at Manor Park)
21	Rugby Town	ANC Final	Away	1-3	Ison
21	Rugby Town	League	Home	1-1	Darlason
22	Rugby Town	League	Away	1-1	Trew
26	Walsall LMS	League	Home	7-1	Hurst (3), Whitfield (2), Dormer, Brindley
28	Gresley Rovers	League	Home	4-0	Whitfield (2), Hatton, Trew
May 3	Evesham	League	Away	2-3	Whitfield, Trew

Legend: FAC – FA Cup; NCC – Nuneaton Charity Cup; NHC – Nuneaton Hospitals Cup; BSC – Birmingham Senior Cup; TCC – Tamworth Charity Cup; ANC – Atherstone Nursing Cup; LHC – Leamington Hospitals Cup; CEC – Chapel End Nursing Cup



1930-31

Prospects For Coming Season

What are the prospects of the Town FC for the coming season? Will they field a strong enough team to be able to regain the Birmingham Combination League Championship?

These are dominating thoughts filling the minds of all enthusiastic local Soccer fans at the present time. In endeavouring to enlighten them on the matter we place before them the following facts.

As everyone who has had any interest in the welfare of the club knew, the centre-forward position caused considerable anxiety amongst the spectators during the last season. The club, having secured the services of W. Hanney, of Market Harborough, it is hoped that last year's difficulties in this respect will be overcome. Hanney possesses size, weight and speed and the necessary skill for an efficient leader. W. Pick, J. Townsend and J. Price resume their old colours, whilst another recruit to the forward line is J. Probert, of Worcester. Whitfield, last year's captain, has left to join Bloxwich Strollers.

G. Lilley has re-signed and will again fulfil the custodianship. A. Lee and A. Brookes, who last year played exceedingly well together as full-backs, will also resume their old positions.

W. Medhurst and G. Brindley have re-signed and other half-backs who have signed on include D. Leslie, of Ashby; and W. Bird, formerly of Hinckley United.

The ground, one of the best in the league, is in excellent trim and the trial games have been fixed for tomorrow (Saturday) and August 23. The first league match takes place on August 30, when Bromsgrove Rovers are the visitors to Manor Park.

G. Paul and H. Hall are the trainers. The club as sound material for a strong first team, and the trial games will probably reveal some smart amateurs. Nuneaton Combination Football League are ready for another prosperous season, the number of players on the books being about 700.

First Trial Game

Nuneaton Town commenced the 1930-31 season with a public trial game on the Manor Park ground on Saturday, before 1,500 spectators. There were a number of old favourites playing, and many new players made their debut. The teams were:

Blue and Whites: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Leslie and Irons; Bruffing, J. Price, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Reds: May; Black and Austin; Ashfield, Foster and Winder; Pick, Musson, J. Stanley, Hurst and Robinson.

The opening stages of the game were keenly contested, the forward play of the Reds being especially effective.

The Reds, who were the much younger eleven, were early on the offensive, but the Blue and Whites gradually came more into the picture, and opened their account after 16 minutes' play through Leslie, who scored with a long shot. Hurst and Pick (2) scored further goals in the first half for the Reds.

Several changes were made in the Reds team after the interval and Pick was introduced into the Blue and Whites team in place of Bruffin. Scott reduced the latter's deficit after 11 minutes and equalised the score a few minutes before the end. The Blue and Whites forward line was led by Hanney, late of Market Harborough, a player with a big goalscoring reputation. That he did not score on Saturday does not mean that he did not give some glimpses of style, ability and aggressiveness. He had not much chance to shine, got few passes that suited him, and could do little shooting. Yet he was threatening whenever opportunity offered, and the impression generally created by his display was that the position of centre-forward will be well filled during coming weeks.

Several of the other forwards on view, on either side, gave much satisfaction. Particularly worthy of mention is Pick, who played for the Town last season. At outside-right he gave a clever and sparkling exhibition, and roused the enthusiasm of the crowd by his artful beating of opponents, and his neat centring and shooting. Hurst, another of last season's players, was conspicuous throughout. He was a skilful worker, and continually foraging for the ball. Other forwards worthy of special mention are Scott, inside-left, one of the new players; Robinson, outside-left; and Jack Townsend, outside-left, who was rather quiet in the first half, but made some good runs in the second part of the game.

Amongst the half-backs, the newly-signed centre, Leslie, late of Burton Town, got through some powerful work, and figured as a marksman. In heading, however, he did not appear to reach the standard of Medhurst. Brindley was the best of the other halves on view, and Lee, Brookes and Black were seen to advantage in the full-back position. Three keepers were seen during the game, Lilley, May and Hall, each of whom, on the whole, acquitted himself well. Each of the six goals that were scored did not give the custodian concerned much chance.

Final Trial Game

Nuneaton Town FC's second and final public trial game was played on the Manor Park ground on Saturday and left no doubt in the prediction that the club will field a team as good, if not better, than last season. The teams were as follows:

Blue and Whites: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Freckley, Bird, Hannah, Scott and Townsend.

Reds: Hall; Black and Austin; Hiron, Foster and Ashfield; Winder, Musson, J. Stanley, Hurst and Robinson.

The game revealed a more pronounced superiority on the part of the Blue and White, or Probables team, over the Reds



than was the case last match. There was more combination as well as individual skill, and a definite method in finding the way to goal. In shooting, also, there was much that gave satisfaction as far as the Blue and Whites were concerned, and no less than six goals were scored, to which Reds replied with a solitary goal in the second half.

The Blue and Whites team this week contained Medhurst and Bird, neither of whom took part in the first trial match. Their presence undoubtedly strengthened the side. Medhurst, at centre-half, did not seem to have lost any of his old skill, and kept a pretty tight grip on the opposition. His passing was neat, his heading masterly, and he gave a remarkable demonstration of long-range shooting. His two spectacular and clever goals in the second half, scored in two or three minutes, greatly delighted the crowd. He came very near to making them into a trio of goals, but May managed to divert the other shot, though he had no chance with the two that found the mark, both superbly directed volleys.

The Blue and Whites were strong in the front line, and one could not complain of lack of cohesion, for the passing was uniformly good. Hanney, in the centre, was adept and unselfish in distributing the ball and opening out the game, though again out of luck in the actual goal-getting department. Several times he looked a certain scorer, only for the ball to elude his control at the crucial moment. Bird was vigorous and finished in his work, and a constant danger in front of goal. He and Pick formed a lively right wing pair. Townsend and Scott, on the other wing, were also a useful couple. Scott showed excellent ball control, and as regards shooting he scored the best goal of the day by a forward. It was the result of a grand screw shot which had the goalkeeper beaten all the way.

Leslie played stylishly at left-half and Brindley was his usual spirited self, though he did not have all his own way with Robinson, the Reds' outside-left, who was the best of the opposing front line. Lee and Brookes were sound at full-back, and Lilley the better of the goalkeepers on view, though not always quite certain in his handling. May played well and made some smart saves. The Reds' forwards, whose shooting on the whole, was somewhat weak, though they were a quintet of triers. Hurst was much more subdued than in the opening match. Ashfield and Hirons were two useful halves and Black again a capable full-back.

Nuneaton Town v Bromsgrove Rovers 30-08-1930

Nuneaton: Hall; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Bromsgrove: Taylor; Hadden and Mason; W. J. Farmer, A. J. Farmer and Cox; Hipkiss, Jackson, STEFVenson, Stubbs and Gummery.

Nuneaton welcomed Bromsgrove Rovers to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Nuneaton opened the season in great style and soundly thrashed Bromsgrove to the tune of ten goals to one. Their display was just as convincing as the score would suggest,

and they were not flattered in the least. But for the fact that they eased up in the last quarter of an hour or so the score might have been even heavier.

The "Nuns" took command of the game almost from the start, and after they had once taken the lead goals came at regular intervals. Bromsgrove were completely outplayed. The winners owed their victory to their excellent team play, and in a slightly lesser degree to their clever and speedy attack which simply waltzed round the opposition.

Bird was about the best forward on the field; he was a live-wire throughout and figured prominently in most of the home team's attacks. And Hanney gave a glimpse of what he really is like by scoring four goals.

The new captain, Leslie, gave a polished display, and Hipkiss and Jackson had very little rope. Medhurst was fine, and Brindley completed a very strong half-back line. Lee was the better of the two full-backs, with Brookes slicing his kicks occasionally. Hall gave a creditable display, although he fumbled the ball when Rovers got their only goal.

Indeed, Bromsgrove were outshone in every department, and it is to their credit that they were triers to the bitter end.

Nuneaton's goals were scored by Hanney (4), Bird (3), Scott (2) and Pick. Jackson got Bromsgrove's only goal, while Cox failed to convert a penalty in the second half.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United

01-09-1930

Nuneaton: Hall; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Hinckley: Tucker; Wibberley and Page; Johnson, Trew and Wesson; Clack, Dormer, Dixon, Turner and McGregor.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Charity Cup. Hinckley came in to the match as holders of the trophy, having defeated Nuneaton 3-1 in the previous final.

Nuneaton fielded the same side that defeated Bromsgrove 10-1 and Hinckley made one change to their team, which lost to Birmingham A on Saturday. Neither team was in overall control of the game and play fluctuated. Both forward lines found themselves opposed to strong and efficient defences, which were difficult to breach. Nuneaton's first goal came from Pick's well-placed corner kick, which was headed past Tucker by Bird.

After the break Hinckley looked more dangerous and played with determination, but found the home defence to be more than a match for them. Taking up the running, Nuneaton added to their lead when Pick secured possession on the right and raced down the wing, beating Hinckley's defence and centring for Bird, who touched the ball on for Hanney, who netted from a ground shot from close range.

Hinckley forced the pressure and forced Nuneaton back as they endeavoured to cut their lead. The visitors eventually fell away and Nuneaton were shooting in, and a few minutes from time Medhurst started a movement by passing out to

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Townsend, who put in a cross shot. Pick won possession and sent in a terrific shot, which was blocked by a defender. Brindley gathered the ball and passed to Hanney, who again scored with a ground shot. Almost at the end of the game, Bird scored Nuneaton's fourth and final goal.

Nuneaton Town v Leamington Town 13-09-1930

Nuneaton: Hall; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Chapman, Scott, Hanney, Hurst and Townsend.

Leamington: Green; Holmes and Partridge; Perkins, Compton and Knox; Shanks, Howells, Hishop, Hedges and W. Taylor.

Nuneaton welcomed Leamington Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Senior Cup first round tie.

In a heavy downpour of rain and on a very treacherous ground, Nuneaton Town defeated Leamington Town by six goals to two.

Despite the bad playing conditions, the football was far from being poor in quality, and now and again Nuneaton showed glimpses of excellent form. But they were by no means consistent, as they played in patches. One minute they would be brilliant, and the next dull and unenterprising.

The real difference between the teams was that the Nuneaton forwards finished better. Leamington had much more of the game than the score might suggest, but the inside men were off target with their shooting.

Nuneaton took too much out of themselves during the early part of the game, and in the last 10-15 minutes they were almost completely played out, and the visitors had more of the game.

Medhurst revelled in the mud, and Brindley improves with every match. Lee was again the safer of the full backs. Hurst was as good as any of the other forwards, but Chapman, who deputised for Pick, was much too timid. Scott dribbled too much. Knox was Leamington's outstanding player and did much good work, especially when he went centre-half. Bishop and the two inside men shaped well in midfield, but did not carry their attacks far enough.

Hurst (2), Hanney (2), Scott and Townsend scored for Nuneaton, while Hedges got both of Leamington's goals.

Market Harborough v Nuneaton Town 20-09-1930

Harborough: Barrett; Coe and Hebbes; Kendrill, McClure and Panter; Reeves, G. Varnham, Brown, Orton and P. Varnham.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Ashfield, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Brindley, Hanney, Hurst and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Market Harborough to take on the league champions in a Birmingham Combination fixture. Bird and Scott were unavailable for the visitors and Hurst and Ashfield deputised.

Considering that they were without Bird and Scott, Nuneaton did well to draw at Harborough. It was a thoroughly interesting game, and the final result just about represented

the actual run of the play. Had either team won they would have been lucky. The absence of Bird resulted in Brindley playing inside-right; Hurst came in at inside-left, and Ashfield operated at right-half.

The changes were bound to upset the balance of the team somewhat, but still the visitors played very well and were full value for their point.

The Nuneaton defence was a little shaky at times, and for once in a way, Lee was not at his best. Lilley did well on his re-appearance in goal. Harborough led by the odd goal in three at half-time, Orton and Brown netting for the home team and Hanney for Nuneaton.

Hanney put the visitors on level terms in the second half, but when the home team again took the lead six minutes from the close, it looked as though Nuneaton would probably lose. But straight from the restart, the visitors attacked and within a minute Pick had made the scores three all. It was a good finish to a good game.

Nuneaton Town v Rugby Town 27-09-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Rugby: Cook; Wilson and Stallard; Boswell, Jones and Roche; Jarvis, Gregory, Adderley, Kind and Borman.

Nuneaton welcomed Rugby Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Rugby pressed right from the start, but were quickly frustrated by the home side. Nuneaton, however, failed with a free-kick, and for a time the game was evenly contested. The away side enjoyed a spell of pressure before Nuneaton turned the tables and Cook in the Rugby goal, was kept busy.

Following a spell of pressure from the home side, a penalty was awarded for a foul on Townsend and Hanney scored from the spot kick. The visitors were not disheartened, however, but attacked with renewed vigour, and a centre by Burman caused anxious moments for the home defence.

Nuneaton launched several counter attacks on the Rugby goal with the left wing being much in evidence and Townsend's centre resulted in a Hanney header. At this time Nuneaton were dominant, but were held at bay by the Rugby defence. Cook made an excellent save from a header by Hanney from close range, before Pick got through and an exciting scene was witnessed near the Rugby goal, which resulted in Cook saving from Pick. Nuneaton increased their lead after 40 minutes, again from the penalty spot, with Hanney scoring easily. Rugby made valiant efforts to score before the break, but were unsuccessful.

The second half was very one-sided and the home defence had little to do. Right from the start Nuneaton set up a strong offensive, with Scott and Townsend getting in shots. Hanney scored again for Nuneaton, three minutes after the break, with a shot that seemed to have little force behind it, but which Cook let the ball roll through his hands, giving Hanney

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his hat-trick. Hanney continued to be menacing, while Pick also played well and gave the home team another opening, which Scott quickly took advantage of and headed the ball into the net.

Rugby were kept well within their own territory and Townsend gave a brilliant display, beating his man continually. Nuneaton had a succession of corners, and Pick scored from one of them, sending in a fast shot that went into the top corner of the net. The visitors attacked once or twice, but without success. Hanney scored his fourth, and Nuneaton's sixth goal, after being put through by Pick. The game concluded with an attack on the Rugby goal, and Cook saved from Pick, Scott and Hanney in quick succession.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City A 04-10-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Birmingham A: Tremelling; Wallington and Bennett; Sabin, Barton and Gelsthorpe; Bond, Grosvenor, Rollason, Harvey and Farmer.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham City A to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. Birmingham sent a strong side that included several first teamers and England international goalkeeper Dan Tremelling, who had been first choice keeper for 11 seasons before Harry Hibbs.

The visitors took up the running from the kick-off, but were well held by Town's defence. In the first ten minutes, however, Birmingham missed an easy chance from in front of the goal. Play ranged in turn in the vicinity of both goal areas, until after 20 minutes Birmingham, following a series of determined raids, took the lead. A fast shot hit the crossbar and rebounded into play to Rollaston, who shot into the net.

Nuneaton, not to be dismayed, played up to their opponents, and in the next ten minutes forced several corners from which, however, nothing materialised, and Birmingham again took up the running and caused Lilley some trouble, with well-directed and forceful shots.

After the interval, Nuneaton continued mainly on the defensive. Lilley and Lee were both playing splendid football, the former being conspicuous with a number of remarkable saves and the latter for his stubborn and effective defensive play. A spell of attacking from Nuneaton raised hopes for an equaliser, but Townsend, after a good run, failed with his centre, while Pick, presented with an easy scoring chance, lost control of the ball at the critical moment, and the chance was lost.

Nuneaton's determination was rewarded, however, for 14 minutes after the interval, they secured the equaliser. Townsend, following a smart run along the wing, centred for Pick to secure possession and cut in, beating Tremelling with a superb shot. Play was now characterised by end to end movements, with each team all out to take the lead. Both Lilley and Tremelling were constantly called upon. The former continued to save in brilliant fashion from almost

unstoppable shots. He was, however, beaten with a close range shot from Grosvenor some five minutes from the close.

Nuneaton, following this reverse, played to the utmost of their ability, and in the last minute all but netted an equaliser, Tremelling missing the ball for Bennett to dash in and clear from near the goal-line. No blame for the defeat can be attached to any Nuneaton player in particular. They all played with marked ability, but were beaten by a more formidable team. Birmingham's neat and accurate tactics proved a little too much for the home side, who, despite the odds, played with determination to the end.

Nuneaton Town v Gresley Rovers 11-10-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Gresley: Waring; Wheeldon and Whittaker; Chambers, Brewin and Mee; Bird, Warden, Burditt, Claye and Topliss.

Nuneaton played host to unbeaten Gresley Rovers for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

In the opening stages, Gresley simply walked over the home team and took the lead within ten minutes of the start. Burdett secured the ball and, after beating Lee, sent in a lobbing shot towards goal. Lilley, it appeared, seemed to think the ball was going over the bar and made no attempt to stop it until it was almost at his feet. The result was that he fumbled in gathering and the ball gently rolled into the net before he could retrieve it.

A few minutes later, with Nuneaton still playing disappointing football, Gresley added to their lead, with Topliss touching the ball into the goal from Warden's centre. The Town now seemed to realise that they were up against it, and a brilliant move on the right wing resulted in Hanney sending the ball high into the net from Pick's well-directed centre to make the score 2-1. Straight from the restart, Nuneaton rushed down the field and Bird made a brilliant run before netting the ball with a brilliant high shot. With the scores level again, Nuneaton fell away and before the interval had arrived, Gresley had retaken the lead. The movement resulting in the goal was well deserving of the lead. A neat forward pass put Gresley's Bird in possession, and, running towards goal, he netted with an unerring shot.

On the resumption play was more equal and Nuneaton went dangerously close on several occasions, but chances given on the left wing were checked by erratic centring. The right wing, too, who up to now had shown themselves to be more capable, were for some reason or another, totally ignored. When eventually they did secure possession, they showed marked ability and after several efforts, a corner was forced, from which Pick centred, picking out Scott, who made no mistake in netting with a terrific shot. Having secured an equaliser and with only ten minutes to go, Nuneaton looked capable of holding their own, but with only two minutes to go, Burditt initiated a neat movement and hesitation by Lee let

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the opposition through and Bird gave the visitors the lead with a header.

For Nuneaton, Pick, Bird and Hanney were three useful forwards, while Lee and Leslie gave a creditable display in the home side's defence. The visitors were well served in all departments.

Bloxwich Strollers v Nuneaton Town 18-10-1930

Bloxwich: Blower; Somerfield and Clamp; Evans, Gardner and Cotterill; Bakewell, Terry, Whitehead, Vaughan and Bradbury.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Hurst and Townsend.

Nuneaton visited Bloxwich Strollers for a Birmingham Combination game. Nuneaton fielded the same team as the previous week, apart from Scott, whose place at inside-left was taken by Hurst.

In the first ten minutes of the game, Nuneaton showed up dangerously, Hurst hitting the crossbar after receiving a splendid centre from Pick, who made a brilliant run along the right wing. Town maintained their aggressiveness and went very close on several occasions. With the home team penned in their own half, Hanney secured possession and touched the ball into the corner of the Strollers' net to give Nuneaton the lead after 13 minutes. Having taken the lead Town began to play in an indifferent fashion and Hurst missed an easy chance.

Bloxwich made their first effective attack, but found Lilley in unbeatable form. Returning to the attack, Nuneaton added to their lead with Hanney scoring his second goal of the game after 20 minutes' play. Bloxwich were confined to their own half with Town shooting in. Townsend, Hanney and Pick went close with a number of efforts. Bloxwich returned to the attack, and a free-kick caused an exciting scene in the Nuneaton area. With the game 40 minutes' old, Bird netted with a magnificent surprise shot from a corner, the home custodian having little or no chance to save. Prior to the interval, Brookes was injured in a collision with Whitehead and had to retire.

After the break, with the advantage of the slope, Nuneaton continued on the offensive, and after seven minutes had the ball in the net through Hanney, but the referee ruled offside. Less than a minute after that, Bloxwich made a good forward movement, which resulted in Bradbury reducing Nuneaton's lead with a shot from close in.

Nuneaton returned to the attack with renewed vigour, and the home goal was constantly in danger. During a melee in front of the home goal, Hanney scored his third, and Nuneaton's fourth goal, Hooking the ball well out of the reach of Blower in the Bloxwich goal. Until the close, Nuneaton showed marked superiority over their opponents, and although unable to add to their lead were constantly on the offensive. The 4-1 win represented Nuneaton's first success in three weeks.

Leamington Town v Nuneaton Town 25-10-1930

Leamington: Kendrick; Holmes and Partridge; Shanks, Knox and Compton; G. Taylor, Kirton, Bishop, Hedges and W. Taylor.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Hurst and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Leamington Town for a Birmingham Combination fixture. Nuneaton kept the same side as the previous game, and Leamington included Knox, who played for Nuneaton last season.

Nuneaton secured the lead after five minutes, following a period of even play. Hanney scoring with a header from a left wing cross. Three minutes later Bird headed in from a great pass from Hanney, but was ruled offside. Kendrick had to deal with shots from Townsend, Pick and Hanney, but was beaten again after 20 minutes, when Hurst headed in from Pick's centre. The ball struck the crossbar before entering the net. A minute later Townsend added a third goal.

Leamington showed more aggressiveness after this and an attack led to Brindley driving the ball into his own net. Shortly after Lilley had to tip over a fierce shot from Hedges. With some five minutes to go before the interval, G. Taylor dashed away and centred into the mouth of the Nuneaton goal. A fierce scrimmage ensued and W. Taylor touched the ball into the net.

After the break, Leamington were favoured with an even share of the play, but brilliant goalkeeping by Lilley made it impossible for them to make any headway. Gradually, Nuneaton wore down their opponents and added to their first half lead, 25 minutes after the interval, Brindley's centre being headed home by Hurst. Two minutes later Hanney drew Kendrick from his goal and drove the ball past him, into the net. Further goals were added by Hurst and Bird.

Nuneaton's inside-forwards played splendid football throughout, but the wingers, Pick and Townsend, were not so prominent as usual. The defence, on the whole, played a reliable game and Lilley gave a brilliant display in goal.

Nuneaton Town v Redditch 01-11-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Hurst and Townsend.

Redditch: Hearne; Winnett and Thomas; Cornwell, Jeavons and Court; Rankle, Morgan, Dunn, Phillips and Leadbetter.

Nuneaton welcomed league leaders Redditch to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination match.

Nuneaton attacked from the start, with Pick being well to the fore. The raid ended, however, in Townsend's shot being diverted. Redditch, who had their fair share of the play throughout the game, launched an attack, but Lilley was not to be beaten and made two fine saves. The visitors' goal had several narrow escapes a few moments later, but Hearne, the Redditch keeper, put up a good performance and saved

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several tricky shots from Pick, Bird and Hanney. A shot by Hurst almost ended in a goal for Nuneaton but Redditch cleared and set up a hot raid on the home goal.

The game continued in the same fashion for some time, both teams having their share of play, but this followed with Nuneaton on the defensive for several minutes, and it looked as if the visitors would draw first blood. Nuneaton got away again and Townsend received the ball from Hurst and centred for Bird to put in a shot, from which Hearne made a valliant effort to save, but could not stop the ball from going in. Close to half-time, Nuneaton scored again, Hanney sending in a shot before the Redditch custodian had recovered from saving a shot from Medhurst. Throughout the rest of the half, Nuneaton maintained their advantage, although Redditch made several dangerous attacks.

Redditch started off well in the second half, but it soon became evident that Nuneaton were the superior team in front of goal. Bird played well and got in some good shots, which did not bear fruit and Dunn sent in a shot for the visitors, which Lilley had no difficulty in saving. Nuneaton became extremely dangerous and Hearne had a very warm time making some spectacular saves. The visitors then made desperate efforts to reduce Nuneaton's lead and Phillips sent in a great drive, but Lilley, who was in fine form, delighted the spectators with a brilliant save.

Shortly afterwards, Dunn again sent in a shot which Lilley managed to touch on to the underside of the bar. Just before the close a melee ensued in front of the Redditch goal, which resulted in Pick netting to secure Nuneaton's third goal. Had it not been for the splendid goalkeeping of Hearn, it is probable Nuneaton would have further increased their lead. The game concluded with play swinging backwards and forwards, both teams sending in shots. The play was full of interest, but no further goals were scored.

There were outstanding displays from Hanney, Bird and Pick and a good exhibition was also given by Lee and Brookes.

Nuneaton Town v Rugby Town 08-11-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Higham, Hanney, Musson and Townsend.
Rugby: Cook; Buswell and Stallard; Clarke, Jones and Kind; Adderley, West, Gregory, Littlechild and Grainger.

Nuneaton welcomed bottom of the league club Rugby Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Senior Cup second round tie.

The play in the opening 15 minutes, suggested that Rugby would be fighting all the way, but with the home team's first goal, the visitors appeared to lose heart and allowed Nuneaton to take practically complete control of the remainder of the game. Nuneaton did so, and amongst many missed chances, neat saving by the Rugby custodian and narrow escapes, managed to find the net on only ten occasions. It was merely a game of shooting in for Nuneaton, with the Rugby defence

touching the ball out of play at every conceivable opportunity. They were all at sea against the formidable Nuneaton forwards. In the same way the Rugby forwards were as ineffective as the home defence were effective.

The home team were without the services of Pick and Hurst, Higham and Musson being recruited from the Reserves to take their places. After 21 minutes, Hanney headed in Nuneaton's first goal from a centre by Townsend. A minute or so later, Medhurst passed the ball to Hanney, who in turn touched it forward for Musson to net the second goal. Nuneaton increased their lead after 35 minutes when Higham touched the ball into the net after Cook had fumbled a shot from Hanney. Four minutes later Hanney headed in from a centre by Pick, and just prior to the interval the same player scored Nuneaton's fifth with a splendid cross-shot.

On the resumption, Hanney secured his hat-trick after receiving a pass from Higham. Eleven minutes after the interval Rugby netted their only goal of the match, West touching past Lilley, who made little attempt to stop the ball. A minute later Pick secured possession and, cutting in from the wing, found the net with a forceful shot. Some fifteen minutes from the close and after Nuneaton had kept up a continuous bombardment of the Rugby goal, Higham netted again from close range, and the same player, almost on time, netted to secure his fourth and Nuneaton's tenth goal.

Nuneaton Town v Halesowen 15-11-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Higham, Hanney, Musson and Townsend.
Halesowen: Darby; Barratt and Florence; Lambeth, Guest and Armfield; Williams, Bradley, Thompson, Harper and Dakin.

Nuneaton welcomed Halesowen Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game. The game was played in front of a moderate crowd and the weather was against good football, with a strong wind blowing from goal to goal. Intermittent showers fell and the ground soon became in a deplorable state.

Although having a decided advantage of playing with the wind in the first half, Nuneaton were unable to take the lead until after 37 minutes of ineffectual and uninteresting play. Halesowen, during this time, managed to hold their own, but were gradually worn down by Nuneaton's repeated attacks. Forcing a corner for Nuneaton, Townsend took the kick and a scuffle ensued in the Halesowen goal area. The ball ultimately went to Brindley, who netted from well out with Darby out of position. Two minutes later Musson secured the ball and passed to Hanney, who beat an opposing back to go on to touch the ball past Darby for Nuneaton's second goal.

Nuneaton showed decided superiority over the opponents in the second half and added to their first half lead after eleven minutes. Medhurst initiated a move and passed to Townsend for that player to test Darby with a fast drive, which he only partially cleared, and Hanney securing the ball, dashed in

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and promptly netted. Three minutes later Townsend secured the ball and after a brilliant run along the wing, cut in and gave Darby no chance with a surprise shot. With eighteen minutes to go, Townsend centred for Higham to meet the ball in mid-air and net for Town's fifth and final goal. With play mostly in the Halesowen area, Pick was fouled and a penalty kick was given against the visitors. Hanney took the kick, but shot straight at Darby, who cleared with little difficulty.

Atherstone Town v Nuneaton Town 22-11-1930

Atherstone: Kester; Wall and Jenkins; J. Buckley, Gilbert and Terry; Askew, Roberts, Sharman, Eastwood and Udall.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Higham, Hanney, Bird and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the short journey to Sheepy Road to take on Atherstone Town in a Birmingham Combination fixture. There was a crowd of about 1,500.

Atherstone kicked off towards the road end, and they were first to become dangerous, Sharman being stopped close in by Lee. Nuneaton retaliated, but they found Wall and Jenkins very safe. After seven minutes play, Sharman scored Atherstone's first goal, shooting well out of Lilley's reach. At the other end Wall made a timely clearance from Townsend, whilst Bird put in a surprise shot which Kester saved on his knees.

After defending well, Atherstone again attacked and Udall missed a good chance. Sharman also headed over from practically underneath the bar. Following good work by Askew on the right, Sharman dashed up and with a first-time shot rattled the net with terrific force, giving Lilley no chance. Kester again saved from Pick before, after 20 minutes, Sharman completed his hat-trick for the second time in successive matches, and a minute later Udall scored a fourth.

By this time, Nuneaton's defence was completely demoralised by the Atherstone raids, and Sharman and Eastwood scored two more goals. Bird, after a fine individual effort, scored for Nuneaton, making the half-time score 6-1.

Nuneaton scored in the first minute of the second half, when following a centre from Leslie, Pick ran in to score. Sharman forced two corners for Atherstone from which nothing resulted, but keeping up the pressure, Askew again centred for Lilley to punch clear. The ball went to Sharman, who was again well positioned and scored from the rebound. Nuneaton replied with a goal from Bird, who made the most of Kester being hampered by his own backs.

Townsend came into the picture, but his shots were easily handled by Kester. At the other end, as Lilley came out, Sharman had no difficulty in walking the ball into the net, scoring his sixth goal of the match.

Ex-Nuneaton player Sharman was the outstanding player on the pitch. His quick opportunism, clever positioning and hard shooting earning the praise of everyone. Another ex-Nuneaton player, Kester, was in his element. He kept the

score down with some brilliant saves and his fearless tackling of the forwards. Many times he dived at the ball when other goalkeepers would have drawn back.

Nuneaton Town v Darlaston

29-11-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Bird and Scott; Pick, Medhurst, Hanney, Musson and Townsend.

Darlaston: Edwards; Forrest and Clayton; Saunders, Cole and Cooper; Davies, Holleran, Marson, Arblaster and Yates.

Nuneaton welcomed Darlaston to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game.

The first half of the game was comparatively even. Darlaston were the first to reach the goal area, but Lilley easily cleared Mason's shot. Nuneaton took up the running and Hanney shot wide from Townsend's centre. End-to-end movements followed with neither team gaining any advantage. The ground was such that ball control was impossible and the players found it difficult to keep their feet.

Musson shot wide for Nuneaton, when well placed before Lilley brought off a lucky save after Brookes miskicked, when running out, he deflected a shot by Davies with his foot. Brindley sent in a well directed centre, but Hanney, with only the keeper to beat, shot into Edwards' waiting hands. Bird saved an almost certain goal when he shouldered a shot from Mason after the ball had been deflected by Brindley.

Right winger Davies gave Darlaston the lead after 31 minutes play. The goal came about following an error on Lee's part, as he thought the ball was going out and stepped aside. Lilley was unprepared, and although he made a frantic attempt to recover, he was unable to do so, and the ball entered the net. A similar misunderstanding occurred within the next two minutes.

Darlaston swept down the field following the re-start and Davies secured the ball and centred. Brindley miskicked and Lilley had only time to partly stop the ball, which trickled towards the goalmouth and Holleran had only to tap the ball into the net. Nuneaton were without Townsend for a while, as he was injured in a collision with a defender, after sending in a shot that hit the upright. Townsend came back and made a splendid run down the wing to finish with a brilliant shot which Edwards had to punch over.

Medhurst, who from the start had played at inside-right, now went to centre-half and Bird moved forward into his old position. Two minutes before the interval, a Nuneaton movement led to Musson securing the ball and centring for Bird to beat Edwards with a cross-shot.

Just after the break, Mason, with only Lilley to beat, passed to Holleran, who tried a shot. Lilley, however, ran out and intercepted the pass with his foot. Darlaston were now the aggressors but were unable to make any impression on the Nuneaton defence, and as the game went on the home side adopted the offensive so much, that they were literally



just shooting in. Numerous opportunities to draw level were missed by the home forwards who failed to combine effectively. Scott had now changed places with Musson and occupied the inside-left position. With a few minutes to go Pick made a splendid run along the wing and centred. Hanney rushed forward to take the pass, but the ball was cleared by a defender. The centre-forward had meanwhile been unable to stop himself and careered into the net. The ball went to Scott who sent in a hard shot, Hanney endeavoured to jump out of the way, but the ball struck him and went into the net. The referee, despite appeals from the home side, gave an offside decision.

Immediately afterwards, Townsend secured the ball and, running along the wing, shot for the ball to strike the upright and bounce out of play. Without anyone of the opposing team touching the ball, the referee awarded a corner kick. Nothing resulted from this, however, or from several other corners forced by Town, and the game ended with Darlaston the victors by two goals to one.

Nuneaton Town v Hednesford Town 06-12-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Hednesford: Tate; Westwood and Smith; Galley, Talbot and Thacker; Alldritt, Chilton, Evans, Gooch and Noakes.

Nuneaton welcomed Hednesford Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Senior Cup third round tie.

Nuneaton were first to score, 20 minutes after the start, after two corners had been forced, Hanney heading into the net from the second. Hednesford were mainly on the defensive and Tate, the visiting keeper, was called upon to deal with shots from Hanney and Pick. After half-an-hour, Scott added Nuneaton's second goal, touching the ball into the net from a great pass by Leslie. Hednesford, when they eventually attacked, found Lilley safe.

On the restart, Hednesford attacked, but were quickly repulsed by Town, who again took up the running to add further to their first half lead. Tate had to touch over the bar from Townsend and from the resultant corner kick by Townsend, Hanney headed in his second goal. Two minutes later Pick netted with a surprise shot. The home team's final goal came 23 minutes after the interval, Scott being the scorer.

Nuneaton's strength lay in their much-improved half-back line. Leslie, the captain, who has been out of the team since the Atherstone fiasco, reappeared at centre-half, a position he occupied playing for Burton Town. His inclusion in the team and in that position was thoroughly justified, for he gave a dashing display. Both Brindley and Medhurst played well with their captain. Of the forwards, Hanney, Pick and Townsend were most prominent. Bird had an off-day. The home full-backs and goalkeeper were sound in what little they had to do.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham Trams 13-12-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Birmingham Trams: Canning; Turner and Milligan; Campbell, Biddle and Webb; Garrod, Hughes, Foy, Thomas and Matthews.

Town welcomed Birmingham Trams to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game. There was a good gate.

Nuneaton took the lead after two minutes, when Hanney passed to Townsend, who beat Turner and returned the ball to Hanney, who netted with a brilliant shot. Town raced away on the re-start and Hanney sent in another shot which Canning had great difficulty in saving. Trams hit back, but were unable to finish off their attacks.

A run by Pick on the right wing resulted in Scott securing the ball and shooting with terrific force. Canning punched the ball back to Scott, who shot again, but the keeper punched the ball out for a second time and Bird drove it back again, but the keeper saved well and got the ball clear. Townsend collected the ball from a throw-in and centred for Bird, who added Nuneaton's second goal with a shot from 15 yards.

A shot from Garrod was intercepted by Lee, but the ball deflected into the hands of Foy, who walked the ball into the net. The referee rightly disallowed the goal. Three minutes before the break Townsend made a good run and centred for Pick to shoot towards goal and Bird, running forward, had little difficulty in shooting the ball past Canning.

On the resumption, Nuneaton continued to attack and Canning had to deal with shots by Bird, Scott and Townsend in rapid succession. Although Town were having things all their own way, it wasn't until 20 minutes after the break that they added to their first half lead when Hanney headed Townsend's cross into the net to make the score 4-0. Five minutes later Townsend again centred for Bird to head home.

Town's sixth goal came after 75 minutes when Pick received the ball from Bird and passed across the area to Townsend, who netted with a terrific cross-shot. Trams made great efforts to reduce the lead and Thomas succeeded in beating Lilley with a fast, short-range shot. Town took up the running again and Hanney added a seventh goal with a fine solo effort. Trams scored a second goal a minute before time when Foy touched the ball past Lilley from a pass by Garrod.

Cannock Town v Nuneaton Town 20-12-1930

Cannock: Freeman; Talbot and Parkes; Worrall, Lyon and Hall; Orcott, Thomas, Griffin, Brough and Walters.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Cannock Town for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Cannock pressed from the start, but Nuneaton retaliated with a movement by Medhurst, which resulted in Scott shooting wide.

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Cannock then became very aggressive, and the Nuneaton defence was not too sure. Lilley, however, gave a sound performance in goal. A centre by Townsend caused the home defence problems, and another attack by the visitors after 10 minutes, produced a goal. Pick's centre forced Freeman to save, but this was followed by a tussle in front of goal and Scott netted with a warm drive, with both the goalkeeper and a full-back lying on the ground, having collided.

Nuneaton monopolised the play for a time and Hanney went close after cleverly beating the defence. A dangerous attack was intercepted by Lee. After being on the defensive for a while, Nuneaton took up the running and Townsend broke through. He put in a beautiful centre, but Hanney missed a splendid opportunity. The visitors came again, however, with an attack on the left, and Hanney netted with a brilliant shot. Cannock retaliated and Walters hit the upright, and from the rebound Brough netted. The game was well-contested, with neither side being inclined to yield an inch. Walters missed a good chance for the home side just before the break.

Cannock pressed strongly after the break and the Nuneaton defence was severely tested. About five minutes had elapsed when Cannock equalised through Thomas, following a centre from the right. It was a quick movement and caught the Nuneaton defence napping. Cannock were now having the major portion of the play and their quickness had the Nuneaton defence in trouble on several occasions. Scott and Townsend tried hard to improve matters and the home goalkeeper had to deal with a shot from Medhurst.

Twenty minutes from time Nuneaton took the lead, through an opening made by Townsend, which enabled Hanney to score. The visitors' goal was then in danger, and Cannock pressed hard for quite a long spell. The home team equalised about eight minutes from time following a miskick by Lee which allowed Lyons to net.

Hinckley United v Nuneaton Town 25-12-1930

Hinckley: Godderidge; Rayner and King; Johnson, Symons and Wesson; Clack, Whitfield, Naylor, Trew and McGregor.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Nuneaton visited The Holywell to take on Hinckley United in a Christmas Day Birmingham Combination fixture.

With Nuneaton at full strength, it was fully expected that they would prove more than a match for Hinckley. As it was, the home side were somewhat lucky to be able to record such a narrow win, for on the day's play Nuneaton fully deserved a draw. Hinckley's offside tactics whenever Nuneaton appeared dangerous marred what would otherwise have been a thrilling encounter between the two rival factions.

Town were not without fault, as the forwards were too inclined to hang back and many opportunities were missed. This unconvincing forward play meant extra work for the defence who played up wonderfully under adverse conditions.

Hinckley's took the lead after two minutes from a goal scored by Naylor. Nuneaton equalised three minutes later, Bird running through the home defence to beat Godderidge with a splendid shot. The game was contested in a rousing manner and although no more goals were added in the first half, Nuneaton netted, only to be pulled up for offside.

The first ten minutes of the second half saw Whitfield, a former captain of Nuneaton Town, give Hinckley the lead, touching the ball home from a corner. Nuneaton were mostly on the offensive for the rest of the game, but their forwards lacked finishing power and although they had many opportunities, they were unable to force a draw.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 26-12-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Black and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Stanley and Townsend.

Hinckley: Godderidge; Rayner and King; Johnson, Symons and Wesson; Clack, Whitfield, Naylor, Trew and McGregor.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for the return Birmingham Combination fixture on Boxing Day.

An attendance upwards of 5,000 saw Town take full revenge for the previous day's defeat. Despite the heavy condition of the ground, which in parts was under water, the quality of football was excellent. An unfortunate incident, marred a clean and interesting game. Townsend, the Nuneaton outside-left, being ordered off the field for a foul on Hinckley keeper Godderidge, following a mix-up in front of the Hinckley goal.

Nuneaton fully deserved the three goal lead they obtained before the interval. The whole home eleven combined together effectively, the half-backs – Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie – being vastly superior to the visiting trio and paved the way for Nuneaton's victory. Hanney achieved a personal triumph by netting all four of Nuneaton's goals. Stanley, who was at inside-left instead of Scott, Bird and Townsend were all conspicuous, while Brookes played a magnificent game at full-back with Black, who deputised for the injured Lee.

Except for the opening quarter of an hour, the visitors were rarely aggressive and their forwards were ragged and disjointed. Their only goal came as a result of a penalty just prior to the close, which was netted by Naylor. Weston, Godderidge and Raynes were the pick of the Hinckley defence, with Naylor and McGregor the best of the forwards.

Nuneaton Town v Cannock Town 27-12-1930

Nuneaton: Lilley; Austin and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Stanley and Townsend.

Cannock: Gray; Talbot and Parkes; Worrall, Lyons and Hall; Orcott, Thomas, Brough, Turner and Walters.

Nuneaton welcomed Cannock Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination match. It was their third match in three days.

Nuneaton registered an easy victory over Cannock, but the



previous two matches seemed to have told on the players and the game was not contested in too forceful a manner. Easy goal-scoring opportunities were missed and the shooting was generally erratic. Nuneaton, however, were much superior to the visitors and fully deserved their win. The feature of the match was the brilliant combination play of the local half-back line, whose co-operation with the forwards in attacking and masterly defensive play kept the visitors penned in their own half for most of the game, so much so, that Cannock rarely looked like scoring. Bird was the most prominent of the home forwards, with Hanney and Townsend also useful. Brookes maintained his improved form at full-back.

Cannock were completely penned in their own half throughout the first half when Nuneaton could do anything but score. Hanney, Bird and Townsend each went close with shots, but it was not until two minutes before the interval that Bird headed in from a centre by Townsend. Only erratic shooting had caused Nuneaton to be only one goal up at the interval.

Under severe pressure, the Cannock defence were playing well to a man, but attack after attack gradually wore them down, until 32 minutes after the interval Hanney headed in after Gray had saved from Townsend. With seven minutes to go Hanney breasted the ball in from Pick's centre.

Birmingham Trams v Nuneaton Town 03-01-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Irons, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Payne and Townsend.

Birmingham Trams: Glover; Turner and Millingham; Turnbull, Riddle and Webb; Gerrard, Thomas, Foy, Hunt and Colley.

Nuneaton travelled to the King's Heath Stadium to tackle Birmingham Trams in a Birmingham Combination game. Town had two reserve team members playing, Irons and Payne deputising for Medhurst and Scott.

Nuneaton took the lead in the first few minutes when Payne sent in a shot that was fumbled by Glover in the Trams' goal, and was allowed to cross the line. The Trams retaliated, but were erratic in their shooting. Townsend was pulled up on two occasions for offside, and a few minutes later the home defence was called on to deal with a cross shot by Townsend and a header by Hanney.

The visitors were playing a convincing game and on the run of the play were proving the more dangerous. Continuing on the offensive, Town's forwards sent in shots, but to little advantage and the Trams made strenuous efforts to equalise. The end of half-an-hour's play saw them draw level through Foy, who shot past Lilley after a series of saves had been made by the Town keeper.

Their lead was short-lived, however, for a minute or so later, Townsend put the Town ahead with a shot which Glover could only partially deflect. Nuneaton followed up this advantage, and, taking up a centre by Pick, Townsend put

them still further ahead by scoring into an open goal. Before the interval Townsend missed an easy scoring chance when he failed to snap up a pass from Pick.

Play was mostly confined to the Nuneaton half after the break, but Trams failed to profit by several openings. After Nuneaton had made an unavailing attempt to relieve the pressure Lilley was injured but was able to resume after attention. A fast and surprising attack by the home side found Nuneaton at a loss and a shot by a Trams' forward cannoned off Brookes and into the net. There was some dispute regarding the goal, but after consulting both linesmen, the referee pointed towards the centre spot.

End-to-end play characterised the last few minutes of the game when Nuneaton added to their lead in the last minute. Townsend sent in a shot which Glover saved, but Hanney secured the ball and with a well-directed drive beat the keeper for Nuneaton's fifth and final goal.

Nuneaton Town v Bournville Athletic 10-01-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Irons, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Stanley and Townsend.

Bournville: Bennett; Passent and Sheppard; T. Harris, Lane and Wain; Jackson, Owen, Mason, Astle and Price.

Nuneaton welcomed Bournville Athletic to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination match.

In the first five minutes of the game Bournville broke through on the right and Astle obtained possession, dribbled through the Nuneaton defence, and beat Lilley with a rather tame cross-shot. Nuneaton retaliated and the ball was kept in the Bournville area for a spell, during which Stanley, Bird and Leslie all sent in weak shots. A shot by Bird was touched round the post by Bennett and Hanney immediately tested the keeper with a difficult shot. The Bournville defence were now completely overwhelmed, but the home forwards were unable to beat Bennett.

The Bournville keeper dived full length to clear from Bird, and then Townsend missed an open goal when, instead of tapping the ball into an open goal, he drove it with terrific force against the upright. Bournville swung the ball down the field and with the Nuneaton defence spreadeagled Price put the ball into the net, only to be pulled up for offside. Mason hit the upright with Lilley out of position, before Nuneaton equalised after 33 minutes when a Bird centre was picked up by Hanney, who beat Bennet with a shot from 15 yards.

Nuneaton missed several chances early in the second half, Stanley, Irons and Bird sending in badly-directed efforts. Eight minutes from the interval, however, Bird ran through the opposing defence to give Nuneaton the lead. Six minutes later Bournville equalised when, following a surprise attack, Astle touched past Lilley after a short scuffle in front of goal. With 15 minutes to play Nuneaton again took the lead through Stanley, who netted from Hanney's pass. Bournville



were now completely on the defensive and with only four minutes to play, Pick took up a centre and scored with a brilliant high shot.

The game was so obviously devoid of interest and so lacking in thrills that it failed to arouse even the enthusiasm of the most ardent of home spectators. The score, although ending in favour of the Town by four goals to two, gives no indication of the run of play.

Nuneaton Town v Darlaston 17-01-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Stanley and Townsend.

Darlaston: Edwards; Forrest and Clayton; Saunders, Cole and Cooper; Alldritt, Holleran, Phillips, Arblaster and Yates.

Nuneaton welcomed Darlaston to Manor Park for the semi-final of the Birmingham Senior Cup. There was a high wind, which to some extent interfered with play.

Darlaston, with the advantage of the wind, took play into the Nuneaton half, but were driven back by the strong defence. A free-kick against Medhurst resulted in Clayton shooting into Lilley's hands from the half-way line. The home keeper had to run out several times to effect clearances, but as yet the Town goal had not been seriously threatened. The home defence, though playing a well combined game, were too inclined to sky the ball when clearing and gained little or no advantage.

Nuneaton eventually broke through and Edwards had to dive full-length to effect a clearance from Bird and a few minutes later had to dive again to save from Pick. Town were having just as much of the play as Darlaston, but the forwards were showing weakness in shooting. Hanney shot into Edwards' hands from Townsend's centre and the visitors retaliated and Phillips gave them the lead after 42 minutes' play.

After the interval Nuneaton took command and after five minutes had equalised, but not before many chances had been missed. Pick sent in a cross-shot which glanced along the crossbar and then Bird secured possession and netted with a fast drive. With the Darlaston defence overwhelmed Stanley shot wide from a corner-kick and Hanney headed over the bar when well placed. The visitors crossed the half-way line for the first time since the interval and a blunder on the part of Lee and Lilley let in Arblaster who gave his side the lead once more. The Darlaston forwards, encouraged by this success, broke through again and again, with Holleran and Arblaster shooting wide.

Three successive corners for Nuneaton proved abortive, but a fourth resulted in Townsend scoring with a terrific shot with Edwards being unsighted. Darlaston were now mainly on the defensive and Nuneaton took the lead when Brindley shot from over 30 yards' range. Edwards ran out, but misjudged the ball, which bounced over his head. In endeavouring to clear, he carried the ball over the line and despite appeals, the referee awarded a goal.

Edwards was injured and had to leave the field, with Forrest deputising. Greatly encouraged by their one goal lead the home forwards were continually on the offensive, but the majority of their movements were spoiled by erratic shooting. Hanney was injured when he collided with the upright, but after attention was able to resume. With two minutes to go, Hanney scored another goal for Nuneaton with a high shot.

The win puts Nuneaton into the final of the Birmingham Senior Cup for the first time in their history.

Nuneaton to Meet Evesham in Birmingham Senior Cup Final

In the final of the Birmingham Senior Cup, Nuneaton Town will meet Evesham Town. The latter defeated Oakengates at Evesham on Saturday last by the odd goal in three. Evesham are at present third in the League table, but have only lost one match this season.

Nuneaton Town v Market Harborough 24-01-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Stanley and Townsend.

Harborough: Barritt; Coe and Masters; Kendall, McClure and Panter; Reeve, G. Varnham, Rice, Orton and P. Varnham.

Nuneaton welcomed Market Harborough to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game. There were around 2,000 spectators present.

With the wind in their favour Harborough swept down the field and within two minutes Rice had given them the lead. The goal came from a throw-in, P. Varnham securing the ball and despatching a perfect centre which Rice headed into the net with Lilley unsighted. Nuneaton retaliated and McClure and Panter were successful in effecting clearances at opportune moments. Barritt had to run and kick clear when Pick was about to shoot, and then Stanley missed an easy opportunity following neat combination between Hanney and Pick.

A free-kick awarded against Lee was taken by McClure, who from 25 yards, shot just over the bar. G. Varnham missed practically an open goal when he shot wide following a scuffle ten yards out from the home goal. Pick was injured in a melee at the opposite end, but after attention was able to resume. Nuneaton were again forced to defend, and Brookes tackled Rice just as the latter was about to shoot. Nuneaton then had a look in and Barritt had to run out twice to clear.

Town were extremely lucky to equalise after 35 minutes. The home forwards had swung the ball well up the field when a defender, in an endeavour to clear, shot straight at Pick. The latter handled to stop the ball from hitting his face and recovering, centred to Hanney, who beat Barritt with a fast ground shot. Pick undoubtedly committed a foul when he handled and for some time pandemonium reigned while the visitors made repeated appeals to the referee to disallow the

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goal. After consulting the linesman, the referee adhered to his original decision and the ball was placed on the centre spot. Great excitement prevailed until the interval when the score was 1-1.

On the resumption Nuneaton again took up the offensive and Bird gave them the lead two minutes after the break when he nipped through the opposing defence to beat Barritt with an easy shot. Eight minutes later Hanney added further to Nuneaton's lead when he gathered a pass from Leslie and after beating Masters, shot high into the net. The home team were now completely masters of the situation and Barritt had to deal with several well-directed and dangerous centres from Townsend.

Brookes was injured and had to leave the field before Bird scored Town's final goal with a shot that was deflected by a defender. Harborough fought back and Brindley, in endeavouring to clear, shot into his own net.

Rugby Town v Nuneaton Town 31-01-1931

Rugby Town: Harban; Stallard and Burrows; Clarke, Jones and Kind; Robinson, Taylor, Gregory, Littlechild and Grainger.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Stanley and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Rugby Town for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The home side were sitting second from bottom of the Combination table.

Nuneaton were set to face the strong wind, and snow was falling at the commencement of the game. When the visitors had adapted themselves to the ground and the conditions, they quickly showed their superiority by keeping Rugby continually on the defensive. Not, however, before Rugby, taking advantage of a spreadeagled Nuneaton defence, had opened the scoring through outside-left Grainger. The home team were unable to maintain their advantage for any length of time, for during the four minutes preceding the interval, Hanney scored twice, his second being the result of a brilliant solo effort.

Crossing over with a one-goal lead, Nuneaton continued to share the major part of the play. The ball was mainly in the Rugby goal area and only brilliant keeping by Harban staved off a heavier defeat. The home keeper was, however, beaten with a shot from Bird after 24 minutes of the second half and again by the same player three minutes later. Although Nuneaton were literally shooting in, they failed to add to their lead again.

Hanney, Bird and Townsend were the most useful of the Nuneaton forwards, the former playing his usual adept game. Leslie maintained his usual good form at centre-half. The rest of the defence gave a satisfactory display.

Rugby were no match for the Nuneaton team and left the field a well-beaten team. This was Nuneaton's seventh successive win, and their sixth in the Birmingham Combination.

Nuneaton Town v Aston Villa A 07-02-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Townsend.

Aston Villa: Davison; Latham and Moseley; Poynton, Warwood and Needham; Shelley, Stephenson, Spencer, Morris and Ordish.

Nuneaton Town welcomed Aston Villa A to Manor Park for a Leamington Hospital Cup semi-final.

Nuneaton have only themselves to blame for the defeat, which can be attributed to decided weakness by the forwards. Time after time it only needed a well-placed drive to beat Davison, but the Town forwards, Hanney in particular, were largely at fault in shooting feebly at close range. Town enjoyed far more of the play than did the Villa and at times were overwhelmingly superior. Only the remarkable keeping of Davison saved the visitors. Shots rained in from every angle and were miraculously cleared by the visiting custodian, and even though he was out of position, as he was on many occasions, Town simply could not get the ball past him. On the run of the play, Nuneaton certainly deserved a win, and when they left the field it was a case of the better team lost.

Chief interest in the match was centred around the initial appearance of Riley, Nuneaton's latest capture from Loughborough Corinthians. Riley, who is a Leicestershire County cricketer, has been with Loughborough for two seasons, and previously assisted Brierley Hill in the Birmingham League. On Saturday, he showed himself to be a very clever player and his inclusion in the team added considerably to the effectiveness of the forward line. His tackling qualities, opportunism and sharp-shooting soon made him a firm favourite with the home supporters. In fact, he was the only forward of the home five who looked like scoring at all and the Villa keeper had some considerable difficulty in dealing with his fast, short-range drives.

Townsend, the outside-left, with Riley as his partner, showed much improvement in his wing play, but though he plied the inside men with centres, his efforts came to nought. The right-wing pair, Bird and Pick, gave a display well below their usual standard, whilst Hanney was rarely dangerous.

Medhurst played a brilliant game at right-half and was easily the best of the halves. Leslie, although he certainly tried hard, seemed somewhat disinclined to tackle. Brookes and Lee were generally sound at the back and Lilley had little to do.

Gresley Rovers v Nuneaton Town 14-02-1931

Gresley: Dingley; Wheeldon and Whittaker; Chambers, Hassall and Wardle; J. Bird, T. Warren, Robey, Claye and G. Bird.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Gresley Rovers for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

From the start, Nuneaton showed themselves to be superior

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to the home team and before the interval had established a useful lead of three goals. All three goals fell to the credit of Hanney. His first came nine minutes from the start after Riley had twice shot over the Gresley crossbar. Riley initiated the movement which led to the first goal when he swung the ball out to Pick for the winger to return the ball to the centre where Hanney met the pass and had little difficulty in placing the ball in the net. Five minutes later Hanney increased the lead when following up a shot, he was able to intercept a clearance by Dingley, the Gresley keeper, the ball rebounding off Hanney into the open goal.

Gresley took up the running for the first time and Robey headed past Lilley from a square pass. The referee, however, disallowed the goal as Robey was adjudged to be offside. Following play was more equal until close on the interval when a centre by Pick was converted by Hanney, who shot for one of the home defenders to deflect the ball into the net past Dingley.

On the resumption the home team took up the offensive and in the space of 25 minutes had twice reduced Town's first-half lead. The first of these goals came six minutes from the interval, Robey centring for Claye to touch the ball past Lilley. Play was transferred to the Gresley goal area, and Hanney scored from Bird's pass only to be given offside. Gresley secured their second goal 20 minutes into the second half, G. Bird netting following a scuffle in the Nuneaton goalmouth. The home team were obviously heartened by these successes and for a time the Town were kept on the defensive. Gresley could not add to their score, however, and Hanney clinched the victory for Nuneaton with a long shot, the ball hitting the upright before entering the net.

Nuneaton Town v Bloxwich Strollers 21-02-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Townsend.

Bloxwich: Evans; Goodall and Martin; Carpenter, Kem and Cotterill; Arnold, Bell, Manders, Long and Bradbury.

Nuneaton welcomed Bloxwich Strollers to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game. The visitors were currently in the wooden spoon position and had been unable to field a full side in their previous match.

There was a strong wind blowing down the field, but Nuneaton, winning the toss, only took advantage of it to the tune of two goals, and these were scored in the first twelve minutes. Between then and the interval, Nuneaton could do everything but score, and for the most part of the half, the visitors were penned in their own half. Many easy goalscoring opportunities were missed by the home forwards, who failed to judge the strength of the wind, with the result that the majority of their chances went sailing over the bar.

Nuneaton were not really dangerous until Pick sent in a terrific short-range shot for the ball to be deflected out of play by a defender. From the resultant corner, taken by Pick,

Townsend secured the ball and passed across the goalmouth. Pick, running in, met the ball and placed it in the back of the net with unerring aim. Two minutes later a forward movement led to Townsend centring. The ball was carried towards goal by the wind and the visiting keeper, tackled by Hanney, was unable to reach it. With two goal in the first 12 minutes, it looked as though Nuneaton were going to pile on the agony, but though they pressed consistently until the interval, the goal tally remained at two.

On the resumption, Nuneaton played a much steadier game and at the end of eight minutes play, they were rewarded with a goal scored by Hanney, who broke through the opposing defence to easily beat Evans. Seven minutes later Hanney brought Nuneaton's lead to four when he took the ball through with him from Brindley's centre. The game was too one-sided to be really interesting, but matters were somewhat altered when Brindley conceded a penalty. Long took the kick and had no problem in beating Lilley.

Town returned to the attack and after 33 minutes of the second half, they scored again, this time through the efforts of Riley, who received from Hanney. The inside-left shot, but the ball struck the upright and rebounded into play. Riley met the ball and made no mistake the second time. Riley scored Nuneaton's final goal a few minutes from time with a shot which Evans partially saved.

Nuneaton Town v Leamington Town 28-02-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Townsend.

Leamington: Green; Partridge and Compton; Shanks, Knox and Trevis; C. Taylor, Kirton, Bass, J. Taylor and W. Taylor.

Nuneaton welcomed Leamington Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game

In the first half, Nuneaton were much the superior team. Leamington rarely reached the home goal area and Nuneaton seemed sure of a substantial victory when, at the end of forty-five minutes, they had found the Leamington net three times. All three went to Hanney. The first followed a series of exciting sequences in the Leamington goal. The home forwards had struck the crossbar and uprights and many of their shots had been deflected out of play.

A shot by Townsend was stopped by the goalkeeper and one of the full backs. Neither was able to clear the ball, however, and Hanney bundled the ball, goalkeeper and defender into the net. This goal, scored after 20 minutes' play, was followed two minutes later by a second, when Hanney netted with an oblique shot after receiving the ball from Pick. Three minutes later, Hanney secured his hat-trick when he completely beat Green with a well-placed cross-shot. Though Nuneaton maintained the upper hand until the interval, no further goals were scored.

On the resumption, Nuneaton continued on the offensive and the visitors' goal was often in danger. Once Green had



to dive full length to save a shot by Hanney. And then after a spell of midfield play, Leslie was injured and had to retire. The visitors immediately swept down the field and with the home defence spreadeagled, Knox scored with a long range shot after 26 minutes play. A minute later W. Taylor headed the ball, which hit the upright and before the defence could clear, he met the ball on the rebound and shot past Lilley.

Leslie returned, and with his welcome re-appearance the home team gradually assumed the offensive again. Towards the close, Pick scored for Nuneaton, and then with only four minutes to go, Leamington made a lightning attack and J. Taylor beat Lilley with a well-directed shot. Close on time Hanney netted after receiving a pass from Bird.

The defeat of Leamington Town marked Nuneaton's eighth successive victory in the Birmingham Combination.

Redditch v Nuneaton Town 07-03-1931

Redditch: Hearne; Winnett and Thomas; Court, Jeavons and Chatwin; Rankle, Morgan, Dunn, Phillips and Leadbetter.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Redditch for a Birmingham Combination fixture. A bitterly cold wind blew down the ground, making it difficult to judge the flight of the ball.

Nuneaton started in convincing fashion, Riley striking the woodwork with a splendid long range shot. Redditch retaliated, but were well held by the Nuneaton defence. Townsend and Hanney were conspicuous in the following play and the latter missed when presented with an easy scoring opportunity. Townsend was tackled when about to shoot, and then a return attack by Redditch resulted in Jeavons shooting wide of the mark. Nuneaton retaliated, and Townsend was injured and had to leave the field for attention.

The visitors monopolised play, but were erratic in their shooting. During a Redditch move, Lilley ran out and took the ball from Leadbetter's foot as he was about to shoot. And then, Hanney lobbed the ball over the bar when he had the goal at his mercy. With two minutes to go to the interval, Hanney, receiving a nice pass from Bird, shot into the corner of the net. Rankle came near to scoring for Redditch in the last minute of the half.

On the resumption Redditch were the aggressors and Morgan sent wide after a nice passing movement by the Redditch forwards. Nuneaton took the ball into the home area and Hearne conceded a corner by tipping the ball over the bar from Bird's shot. Medhurst sent wide from the resultant corner. Redditch took up the running and Lilley had to save from Dunn. The home forwards were rather weak in finishing their moves and in consequence were generally held up by the Nuneaton defence. Bird and Hanney were dangerous in Nuneaton moves and Morgan shot wide for Redditch. The fast pace at which the game had been played was beginning to tell on the players and the game began to slow down.

Neither team were really dangerous in front of goal and the game came to a close following a spell of fluctuating play in which both defences prevailed. The defences on both sides played with credit. For Nuneaton, Lee and Brookes were two excellent full-backs and the halves also gave a sound display, with Leslie being responsible for some good constructive work.

Nuneaton Town v Evesham

14-03-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Robinson.

Evesham: Barnett; Stokes and Davis; Allen, Smith and Moore; Bacon, Evans, Haines, Knight and Millerchip.

Nuneaton welcomed Evesham Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination match. The game was watched by a crowd of 3,500.

Nuneaton were first to attack and the home spectators had their first thrill when Bird dribbled through and passed to Robinson on the left wing. Taking the ball in his stride, Robinson went away and centred right across the Evesham goalmouth. So quick was the whole movement carried out that the rest of the forwards were nowhere in the vicinity and the ball was allowed to pass out of play. The ball quickly travelled to the opposite end and Lilley had to tip over the bar from Bacon's shot.

Bird cleared the ball from an Evesham corner and found Hanney, who gained possession and made a good run upfield, only to be robbed when about to shoot. Evesham returned again and a corner resulted, from which Lilley had to tip over the bar from Evans' header. After nine minutes' play Hanney seized on a pass by Pick, which Bird had allowed to pass through his legs, and shot accurately into the corner of the net.

Evesham made a number of raids, but the masterly tactics of the home defence meant their efforts came to nought. At the other end, Hanney "sold the dummy" by allowing a right wing pass to travel through his legs. Neither Riley or Robinson, however, were far enough upfield to take advantage of an easy goalscoring opportunity.

A centre by Brindley saw the ball cleared out to Nuneaton's right wing, from where Pick returned the ball for Hanney, who made a valiant effort to break through. Millerchip made a good run down the left wing and finished with a shot over the bar. After 29 minutes, Nuneaton went further ahead when Bird snapped up a forward pass by Medhurst and passed the ball across to his outside man. Pick took the ball along the line and then sent in a grand centre. Meanwhile Bird had raced forward and was in time to meet the ball with his head and direct it into the corner of the net, with Barnett beaten.

Lilley was forced to his knees and had to concede a corner following a forceful shot from Bacon, and then Hanney missed a practically open goal, shooting wide of the target. With a few minutes to go to the interval, Bacon centred from the corner flag for the ball to be driven into the net by



the wind. Lilley was badly positioned and appeared to be deceived by the flight of the ball.

Nuneaton resumed without Riley, and then a few minutes later the game was halted while Medhurst received treatment for a facial injury. Riley returned and play was centred in the visitors' half. Bird received the ball from Hanney and ran through the opposing defence to score from a difficult angle, nine minutes after the break.

Nuneaton's half-backs exerted a big influence on the course of events. They were superior to the Evesham half-backs in giving support to the forwards. Lee and Brookes were sound and Lilley was safe and steady. Hanney, though well watched, played a forceful game. Riley was apt to hold the ball too long and Robinson, was not altogether in his element. Nuneaton's victory gives promise of an exciting end to the season.

Halesowen v Nuneaton Town 21-03-1931

Halesowen: Southwick; Barrett and Brindley; Lambert, Guest and Arnfield; Edwards, Knight, Harper, Mobberley and Aston.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Robinson.

Nuneaton travelled to The Grove to take on Halesowen in a Birmingham Combination match.

Nuneaton went 1-0 up after just five minutes, when Pick secured the ball and raced along the wing before centring for Hanney to meet the ball and shoot past Southwick. Five minutes later Halesowen equalised through Harper, who snapped up the ball following a tussle in front of the Nuneaton goal, and touched past Lilley. Two minutes later the visitors regained the lead, Bird beating Southwick with a fast drive.

A period of fluctuating play followed and then Lambert put through his own goal in endeavouring to clear a centre from Pick. A mistake by Medhurst led to Halesowen reducing Nuneaton's lead. Arnfield breaking through and passing to Aston, who beat the Nuneaton defence and scored from close range. Ten minutes from the interval Hanney scored Nuneaton's fourth goal after receiving Robinson's pass, and Pick added the fifth goal, five minutes later. Two minutes before half-time Halesowen were awarded a penalty following a handball by Brindley. Lilley, however, brought off a brilliant save from Guest's spot-kick.

Nuneaton started the second half in unconvincing style and Edwards reduced the lead after eight minutes. Three minutes later Mobberley further reduced the lead. Nuneaton played a more determined game after this reverse and 20 minutes after the interval, they increased their lead through Hanney, who scored after Southwick had pulled off a save. Nuneaton were holding their own, but the football they were playing was not such as to lead to further scoring. Before the close, Southwick had to concede a corner in an attempt to clear from Hanney, and Robinson's centre was cleared with difficulty.

Hanney, Bird and Pick were the best of the Nuneaton forwards, and Leslie and Brindley the most useful half-backs.

Lee and Brookes were generally sound, and the Halesowen goals were due to no particular fault on the part of Lilley.

Nuneaton maintain their position at the head of the Birmingham Combination, being one point ahead of Evesham, who have two games in hand.

Special Train to Redditch

Supporters are asked to note that the railway company has made arrangements to run a special train to Redditch on March 28, in connection with the Senior Cup final. The train will leave Abbey Street Station at 1.30pm, and the return fare is 3s.

Nuneaton Town v Evesham

28-03-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Leslie and Scott; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Townsend.

Evesham: Barnett; Stokes and Spragg; Allen, Smith and Moore; Bacon, Haines, Vallance, Knight and Millerchip.

Nuneaton travelled to Redditch to take on Evesham in the final of the Birmingham Senior Cup. Nuneaton were without the services of Medhurst, whose place was taken by Scott.

The first action saw Haines dribble towards the Nuneaton goal, but Brookes was on hand to clear. Leslie headed clear and then the ball travelled out to Townsend who was dispossessed by Stokes. Some poor play by Nuneaton followed before Evesham missed an easy goalscoring chance when Millerchip shot well over the bar. Bird headed towards goal from Pick's centre, but Barnett easily cleared.

Unfortunately, some questionable tactics were being brought into play and Hanney was fouled just outside the Evesham penalty area. Taking the kick, the Nuneaton centre-forward shot wide. Barnett made a brilliant save from Riley, while Leslie cleared from a dangerous situation at the other end. Townsend and Leslie were fouled in quick succession, and the later shot over the bar from one of the free-kicks. The Evesham defence staved off Nuneaton moves in which Pick and Hanney were prominent, and then Lilley punched out a shot by Haines and a header by Vallance. Leslie headed clear from a free-kick when a goal looked certain and the game was goalless at the break.

On the resumption, Nuneaton made a number of attempts to score and their determination was rewarded when four minutes after the interval, a scuffle in the Evesham goalmouth ended in Bird shooting into the corner of the net, giving Nuneaton the lead. Evesham attacked with renewed vigour, and Lilley had to punch out from a centre by Millerchip. The Nuneaton defence prevailed, however, and the ball was taken to the Evesham goal area where Townsend tested Barnett with a forceful shot. Bird and Moore were concerned in some rough methods, and both were admonished by the referee.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Evesham still persevered and their efforts were rewarded with a goal 25 minutes after the break, through Knight, who was injured soon after and had to leave the field. Lilley was brought to his knees in saving from Smith, and then he turned the ball round the post from a shot by Vallance. Just before the close Barnett made a brilliant clearance from Hanney.

For Nuneaton, Hanney, Bird and Townsend were the best of the forwards. Leslie and Brindley were capable halves, but Scott was apt to allow the Evesham right wing too much freedom. Lee and Brookes both played useful games at full-back and Lilley was generally safe in goal. Barnett, Stokes, Moore, Smith, Haines, Vallance and Millerchip were the best of the Evesham eleven.

Darlaston v Nuneaton Town 04-04-1931

Darlaston: Edwards; Forrest and Clayton; Horton, Cole and Cooper; Wilkes, Davies, Marson, Arblaster and Yates.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Leslie and Scott; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Darlaston for a Birmingham Combination match. Town had arrived at a stage where a slip would prove fatal to their championship aspirations.

The first fifteen minutes was confined to midfield, with only the occasional shot being put in, but after 22 minutes the home side took the lead through Yates, who met Wilkes' centre and drove the ball into the top corner of the net. Three minutes later Davies netted from a pass by Marston. Nuneaton were never dangerous in front of goal, and renewed efforts by Darlaston resulted in Clayton scoring from a penalty kick, awarded for accidental handling by Brookes.

In the second half, Town were aggressors for some 10 minutes, but the forwards were erratic in their shooting and Edwards only had occasion to save from Leslie. Retaliating, Darlaston scored their fourth goal eleven minutes after the break, Wilkes shooting into the net after Lilley had failed to gather the ball. The subsequent play was all in favour of Nuneaton, but they were unable to beat Edwards until nineteen minutes after the interval when Hanney shot past the Darlaston keeper from well out. Ten minutes before the close, Marson scored an easy goal with the Nuneaton defence in disarray.

Evesham went top of the league following their win on Good Friday and Nuneaton's defeat sees them three points adrift of the leaders, who have a game in hand.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City A 06-04-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Riley, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Birmingham A: Slater; Dransfield and Bennett; Dare, Barton and Wallington; Harvey, Grosvenor, Rollason, Yarnall and Guest.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham City A to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination match on Easter Monday.

For the first 20 minutes of the game Birmingham were

constantly on the offensive and Lilley was frequently called upon. With the Nuneaton defence spreadeagled, Birmingham took the lead after 23 minutes, Lilley fumbling a shot and allowing Rollason to score a simple goal. Nuneaton took up the running and Townsend went close when he landed the ball on top of the net. The equaliser came just before the interval when Leslie was fouled in the Birmingham half. Brindley took the free-kick and from 35 yards range, landed the ball in the net. The ball going in after hitting the upright.

Nuneaton were a strong combination in the second half and were unlucky not to have scored more than the one they did. On one occasion, Riley struck the underside of the crossbar and the ball rebounded into play. Pick scored Nuneaton's winning goal.

Evesham Town v Nuneaton Town 09-04-1931

Evesham: Barnett; Stokes and Spragg; Allen, Smith and Moore; Bacon, Haines, Vallance, Knight and Millership.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Highfield Road, Coventry, to take on Evesham Town in the Birmingham Senior Cup final replay. There was a crowd of 4,000 with a large contingent from Nuneaton.

From the start, Nuneaton played like a winning team and for the first 10 minutes Evesham were unable to cross the half-way line. During this time, Nuneaton won two corners, but Pick made feeble attempts on goal. When Evesham eventually reached the other end, a misunderstanding between Brookes and Lee let in Vallance, who touched the ball too far forward and the ball went out of play.

The game was now beginning to take on a more open character, and a corner to Evesham saw Knight shoot hopelessly wide. At the other end Townsend centred for Barnett to misfield the ball and allow it to go across the goalmouth. The Nuneaton forwards, however, were not up, and a gilt-edged opportunity was allowed to slip by. A free-kick awarded to Evesham led to the opening goal of the match. Allen took the kick, and Vallance rushed forward to head past Lilley as he was about to save.

Nuneaton made a determined effort to equalise and Spragg conceded a penalty when he handled a pass by Pick. Hanney took the spot-kick, but Barnett brought off a brilliant save. The resultant scrimmage led to Riley securing the ball and driving it with terrific force into the net. Three minutes later Nuneaton took the lead when Townsend beat Barnett with a hard drive after he had received a nice pass from Pick. The Evesham defence was now all at sea and for a time the opposing forwards had the goal at their mercy. Shots were rained in, but each time Barnett managed to effect a clearance. A second penalty was awarded Nuneaton when Moore brought Pick down. Riley took the spot kick, but Barnett brought off a brilliant save. The ball rebounded from the keeper's hands to Riley, who shot wide.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Straight after the break, Evesham had a lucky escape when a shot by Townsend struck the upright and rebounded into play. There appeared to be some doubt as to whether the ball had crossed the line, but after a consultation with one of the linesmen, the referee ordered play to proceed. Twelve minutes after the interval, Nuneaton added to their first-half lead, Bird heading in after Hanney had robbed the Evesham goalkeeper just outside the area. A minute or so later, Hanney secured Nuneaton's fourth and final goal. The Evesham defence were now completely subdued and their clearances were generally very wild. Barnett, however, was brilliant in the Evesham goal.

It was entirely against the run of play when Evesham reduced Nuneaton's lead some 32 minutes after the interval. Vallance was the scorer, and Lilley was unfortunate in that he got to the shot, but could only partially deflect the ball. With the exception of a solitary raid on the Nuneaton goal the play was confined to Evesham territory, with Nuneaton taking matters comparatively easy. The final whistle was the signal for a terrific burst of cheering from the wildly excited Nuneaton supporters, who went so far as to invade the pitch. The presentation of the Cup was made from the stand to Leslie, the captain of the winning team, by Councillor Brandish, the Chairman of Coventry City FC.

There was one regrettable incident in the match, when Hanney, in charging an opponent off the ball, injured his right shoulder. He continued to play, but after the match he was examined by a doctor, and the latest information is that he is to undergo an X-ray examination. He will, therefore, be unavailable for the Bromsgrove match.

Bromsgrove Rovers v Nuneaton Town 11-04-1931

Bromsgrove: Greenway; Webster and Brooke; Bennett, Jefferies and Cox; Curtis, Bushnell, Evans, Gold and Danks.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Riley, Bird, Scott and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Bromsgrove Rovers for a Birmingham Combination fixture. Scott was in for Hanney, who is reported to be suffering from a severe shoulder strain and bruising.

Bromsgrove swept down the field at the start of the game and two sharp raids found the Nuneaton defence unprepared. During the second movement, Bromsgrove took the lead when Danks put in a shot which struck the upright before going into the net. Nuneaton immediately retaliated and a determined forward movement culminated in the equaliser being secured. Pick took possession of the ball and raced down the wing, finally passing to Bird, who sent in a shot towards goal. The ball struck the foot of a defender and bounced over the head of the Bromsgrove keeper and into the net.

A minute later, Pick again made a brilliant run down the wing and centred for Scott to take the ball on the run and give Nuneaton the lead with a splendid drive. For a while the Bromsgrove defence was completely overwhelmed, but

Nuneaton failed to add to their scored until after 36 minutes' play when Bird converted from Pick's corner by heading past Greenway. Injury to Brindley caused a re-arrangement in the Nuneaton side, Townsend coming to inside-left and Scott falling back to left-half. Brindley occupied the outside-left berth. Before the interval, Greenway brought off a good save from Townsend, but did not clear the ball efficiently, and only a timely intervention prevented Pick from scoring.

Town were the superior team in the second half, and with the slope in their favour, were mainly on the offensive. Pick's goal scored late in the game, capped a bright display by Nuneaton.

Nuneaton's title aspirations received a boost with the news that Evesham Town had lost to Bournville.

Nuneaton Town v Atherstone Town 13-04-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Black and Brookes; Winder, Leslie and Brindley; Chapman, Riley, Bird, Scott and Townsend.

Atherstone: Kester; Wall and Udall; Lillycrap, Gilbert and Terry; Askew, Gisbourne, Roberts, Robertson and Gammidge.

Nuneaton welcomed Atherstone Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. Both teams were below strength. Nuneaton had four reserves in their side, with Hanney, Lee, Medhurst and Pick all on the injured list; whilst Atherstone were without Sharman, Buckley and Piggott.

Nuneaton pressed early on and forced two corners, from the second of which Scott went close, heading over. Black thwarted an Atherstone attack, and then Townsend broke through, but Udall took the ball from his toe. Kester brought off a good save following a free-kick for Nuneaton, and then Bird missed an open goal. Except for one solitary raid the game had been confined to the Atherstone half, but the Nuneaton forwards, with any amount of scoring chances, were erratic in their shooting, until Scott accepted a pass from Chapman and netted a deserved goal.

Kester cleared a free-kick, and then Udall kicked clear from under the bar. Lilley was tested by Gisbourne, and was also called upon to save from a free-kick. Town's second goal came as a result of a brilliant piece of work by Bird, who beat the opposition to shoot past Kester, the ball striking the upright before entering the net. Just before the interval Atherstone were awarded a penalty, but Lilley brought off a great save from Gammidge.

After the break, Atherstone were on the offensive for a period, Gammidge and Roberts putting in shots. At the other end Kester ran out to deflect a shot by Townsend before a mistake by Udall let in Townsend again, and he touched the ball over Kester's head as the Atherstone keeper ran out to meet him. Atherstone had an escape when Bird's header skimmed the bar, but the game finished in a very tame manner, with the score 3-0 to Nuneaton.

As a result of their win, Nuneaton have regained the leadership of the league, but Evesham are only one point behind with two games in hand.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Nuneaton Town v Walsall LMS 18-04-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Riley, Bird, Scott and Townsend.

Walsall LMS: Russell; Whitehouse and Wilkinson; Burns, Baynton and Waters; Kelly, Waltho, Fletcher, Welch and Shires.

Nuneaton welcomed Walsall LMS to Manor Park for the final Birmingham Combination home fixture of the season. Heavy rain affected the attendance.

Walsall won the toss, and kicking with the wind, threatened early on, with Brookes clearing in the nick of time. Nuneaton retaliated, and Scott missed a fine chance when Pick centred. Walsall, however, adapted themselves to the heavy ground, and Kelly hit the side netting with a great drive. Play became scrappy for a time with Town failing to control a lively ball.

The crowd were electrified by two goals inside a minute. Clever passing amongst the forwards resulted in Welch giving Walsall the lead. Straight from the kick-off, Scott levelled the scores after receiving from Riley. Walsall exerted pressure, and after Lilley had twice saved, he was beaten by Shires, who tricked four defenders before netting. Nuneaton were then awarded a penalty, but Russell saved Brookes' shot. Nuneaton equalised a minute from the interval, Bird heading in a Pick centre.

In the second half, Nuneaton were overwhelmingly superior, and eight minutes after the interval Brindley, who was playing a brilliant game, shot from well out into the net. Twelve minutes later a centre by Townsend was snapped up by Pick and converted. Fifteen minutes from time Scott gathered a pass from Pick and scored Nuneaton's fifth goal. Townsend scored the final goal of the match in the last minute with a shot high up out of Russell's reach.

Town were again without Hanney, still on the injured list. Bird, however, again being a capable deputy, opening out the game well and being very adept in front of goal. Two of Nuneaton's goals were partly due to Bird tricking the defence by letting the ball go past him to another forward.

The home forwards as a whole, played well, once they got into their stride. Brindley gave an outstanding display in the half-back line. Lilley was at fault when the LMS scored their second goal, but apart from that he played a steady game.

In the second half Nuneaton ran their opponents to a standstill, and the Walsall goal was bombarded. Only brilliant keeping by Russell saved his side from a greater defeat.

Evesham Town v Nuneaton Town 22-04-1931

Evesham: Barnett; Stokes and Spragg; Jakeman, Smith and Moore; Bacon, Evans, Haines, Knight and Millership.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Riley, Stanley, Bird, Scott and Townsend

Nuneaton travelled to Evesham on Wednesday for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

The visitors registered their third victory over Evesham and now lead the table by three points, having played one more

game than Evesham. If Nuneaton can win their two remaining matches, away to Bournville and Walsall LMS, they will carry off the title no matter what Evesham can do.

Town took the lead much against the run of play, Townsend scoring a simple goal after 15 minutes. Evesham continued the more aggressive, and before the interval Millership equalised from a penalty. Nuneaton claimed a slight advantage in the second half, but Evesham soon wore down the attack. Evans and Knight went near to scoring, but a goal by Bird from a penalty in the closing stages put the issue beyond doubt.

Bournville Athletic v Nuneaton Town 27-04-1931

Bournville: Bennett; Passent and Turner; Wain, Boyd and Sheppard; Plant, Owen, Mason, Astle and Best.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Scott, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Riley and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Bournville Athletic in a Birmingham Combination game. Play was handicapped by a cross-wind.

Town were disappointing in the first half, but improved after the interval, and were easily the better side for the rest of the time. The team as a whole, played hard all the second half, but the Cocoa-men defended with great vigour. Pick was Nuneaton's best forward, and was ably assisted by Bird, who went to right-half in the second half of the game. Hanney still appeared to be affected by his shoulder injury. Nuneaton defended well as a rule, with Brookes being in his best form.

Bird scored for Nuneaton about 10 minutes after the start, which was followed by some tit-for-tat play, until after half-an-hour Owen scored for Bournville. Lilley made some very useful saves. After the home side had equalised, Bird made some fine efforts to increase Nuneaton's score, but despite a noticeable all-round improvement in the team the half-time score was 1-1.

Both teams resumed with renewed effort, and Brookes was conspicuous with some effective tackling and clearances. Bird, Scott and Riley showed plenty of dash, and the latter was unfortunate with a shot which went just outside the post. Leslie, too, was unlucky with a shot that skimmed the crossbar. At times, Bournville pressed hard and it looked as if they would get the lead. But after a hard and clean fight neither team were able to add to their score and the result was 1-1.

Town's draw and the fact that Evesham could only draw at Cannock, meant that the Championship was decided on Monday evening. The top two teams still have a game to play, but Nuneaton cannot be overtaken as they have a three point lead.

Walsall LMS v Nuneaton Town 02-05-1931

Walsall LMS: Pettifer; Whithouse and Walters; Humpage, Burns and Horobin; Kelly, Waltho, Fletcher, Welch and Shires.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Irons, Hanney, Bird and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Walsall LMS as League Champions for their final game of the Birmingham Combination season.



Town were hampered by the bumpy Walsall pitch, and it was some time before they could combine to any advantage. When they did, however, it was to take the lead after 22 minutes' play. The equaliser came 15 minutes after the interval.

There were several exciting incidents at both ends and the defences came in for some gruelling work. Though there was nothing material at stake the match provided an interesting game. It was quite an attractive game to watch and there was nothing of the end-of-the-season spirit about the work of the players, who put plenty of energy into their play.

Though Nuneaton had the advantage of the wind in the first half they failed to show to advantage until a shot by Hanney sailed over the bar. Pettifer had to clear twice from Irons, and then Leslie shot over the bar. Pick made a brilliant run down the wing, only to be robbed of the ball as he was about to centre. The Nuneaton half-backs dominated the game and after a period of pressing, Nuneaton took the lead 22 minutes from the start, Bird driving the ball into the net from Pick's centre. The home team retaliated after this reverse, and Lilley was called upon to clear on several occasions. The interval came with the visitors pressing.

On the resumption, Nuneaton forced two corners and Hanney and Medhurst headed over. Walsall hit back and Waltho scored the equaliser 15 minutes after the break. Nuneaton made valiant efforts to regain the lead, but although they were continually on the offensive for the 30 minutes of the game, they were unable to do so, and the final whistle came with the match drawn. So ended a season in which Nuneaton have made football history.

Birmingham Combination Final Table 1930-1931

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nuneaton Town	34	24	4	6	124	61	52
Evesham Town	34	22	5	7	101	60	49
Hinckley United	34	20	5	9	124	68	45
Market Harboro' Town	34	18	6	10	108	66	42
Redditch	34	18	5	11	100	58	41
Birmingham "A"	34	16	8	10	95	66	40
Darlaston	34	15	9	10	112	70	39
Gresley Rovers	34	17	4	13	86	81	38
Walsall LMS	34	15	8	11	89	86	38
Atherstone Town	34	16	4	14	127	105	36
Cannock Town	34	15	6	13	92	80	36
Leamington Town	34	14	5	15	90	97	33
Birmingham Trams	34	10	7	17	73	96	27
Bromsgrove Rovers	34	12	3	19	73	104	27
Bournville Athletic	34	10	5	19	71	109	25
Halesowen Town	34	10	5	19	80	134	25
Rugby Town	34	5	1	28	64	169	11
Bloxwich Strollers	34	2	4	28	59	160	8

'Cabbage' Celebrate Their Success

The Stockingford Allotment Institute Football Club wound up the most successful season in its history with a dinner and social evening, held at the Institute, Church Road, on Saturday evening, when the presentation of cups and medals the club has won during the past season took place.

Mr. S. Bower (president of the Allotment Institute) presided, and was supported by Mr E. J. Porter, of Birmingham; Capt. A. C. French, Nuneaton; Mr E. Hiorns, Atherstone; Mr George Cross, Nuneaton; Rev. F. J. Pratt (vicar of Stockingford); Mr R. Read (secretary of the football club); and Mr L. Wilshaw (general secretary)

The chairman said they had won five cups and it was one of the finest achievements since the origin of the Stockingford Allotment Society. He congratulated them heartily on their success. He paid particular tribute to their secretary, Mr R. Read, and referred to the tremendous amount of work involved in order to keep the teams up-to-date and fit for the field.

He also thanked the chairman of the football club, Mr H. Talbot, and wished the club every success in the future. The secretary, Mr R. Read, presented his seventh annual report, and gave a brief summary of the progress of the club during the past seven seasons. The first season they had finished bottom of the Nuneaton Combination and the second season they were runners-up in the league and won the Chapel End Nursing Cup and the Nuneaton Hospital Cup... Mr Read finished by complimenting Mr L. Edwards, who has been signed by Leicester City, and who next season will make his debut in first class football.

Mr E. J. Porter presented the Coleshill Charity Cup and said he hoped the club would gain further victories next season. Mr W. Stokes, captain of the first eleven said he thought their success was chiefly due to the team spirit which existed among the players.

In presenting the Polesworth Cup, Capt. A. C. French said it was his first visit to the Stockingford Allotment Institute. He had, however, looked round their extensive premises, and he congratulated them on their flourishing condition. With regard to the winning of five cups, he thought that it was a remarkable achievement.

The Vicar of Stockingford, the Rev. F. J. Pratt, presented the Footballers' Bed Cup, and said they were justly proud that football of such calibre and quality was played in Stockingford.

Mr E. Hiorns, of Atherstone, presented the league cup to the second team, and Mr George Cross, of Nuneaton, presented the Hospital Cup.

A League and Cup Double



George Brindley

Local youngster who had developed into a polished wing-half. Never knew what it was like to have a bad game.

In terms of prizes, season 1930-31 was the most rewarding in the history of Nuneaton Town. They were champions of the Birmingham Combination for a fourth time. Only Bournville Athletic had a better record. Nuneaton also became the first

Combination club to win the Birmingham Senior Cup. Up to Christmas few would have forecast the "Nuns" to carry off the trophies. At the end of 1930 they stood fifth in the table, but in a wonderful run they won 12 league games in succession, losing just one game up to the end of the season. Evesham Town had been favourites for the honours, remaining so up till April 9th when 4,000 fans were at Highfield Road, Coventry to see the Nuns defeat the "Avonsiders" 4-2 in the replayed final of the Senior Cup. Later that month, Nuneaton won 2-1 at Evesham to complete a league double. This proved to be their knock-out blow, the Worcestershire club wavered under pressure to finish runners-up.

Nuneaton's performance at Coventry overshadowed everything else they produced that season when from Boxing Day they had played like champions.

It was April 27th when the Nuns made sure of the Combination title with a 1-1 draw at Bournville, bringing great delight to their fans. Three days later great interest was generated when Manor Park staged the prestige Champions v The Rest match. The Nuneaton team was photographed before the game with over 2,000 enthusiastic fans looking on. There were two changes from the Pick of the Combination selected side, local lads J. O. Phillips (Haunchwood) and Paul (Nuneaton), coming into the line-up.

A shoulder injury prevented Bill Hanney, Nuneaton's prolific centre-forward from playing, but he was at the game and kicked-off. Teddy Pick also had a knock. Reg Irons and Charlie Higham from the Reserves, who finished joint top of the Nuneaton Combination took their places.

William Hanney

Scored 64 goals in the 1930-31 season.



Dave Leslie

Club captain. In December he moved from wing-half to centre-half, where he was outstanding.

Nuns: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Irons, Leslie and Brindley; Higham, Riley, Bird, Scott and Townsend.

There was little to choose between the two teams in the early stages, play was not over-exciting, being largely

confined to midfield. With 20 minutes gone the select side were awarded a penalty after Arthur Lee brought down McGregor of Hinckley United. The spot kick was taken by Whitehouse of Walsall LMS, who shot straight at George Lilley, who made an easy save. A minute later Phillips gave the Pick of the League side the lead, scoring with a smashing shot after McGregor had crossed the ball. For the rest of the half the select side had more of the game with Nuneaton's defence being kept hard at work.

The "Nuns" were not long in arrears and after the interval, Harold Riley, the Leicestershire cricketer, running in after receiving the ball from Brindley, beat keeper Bennett (Bournville) with a superb shot.

After the match W. Harper, chairman of the Birmingham Combination, presented the championship shield to Leslie and medals to the players. The Nuneaton team, accompanied by the Town band, then paraded their two trophies around the main streets of the town on a wagon decorated in their blue and white colours. The streets were lined with supporters who gave the victorious players a splendid ovation.

On May 6th, 1931, a victory dinner was held at the Newdegate Arms Hotel. Among the 104 guests were officials from the Birmingham Combination, Nuneaton Council and Football Club, together with players and supporters. It was a great aftermath for the "Nuns", whose success had been brought about by the splendid team spirit and comradeship that existed throughout the club.

An autographed Town football went to Fred Payne for the excellent sum of £7 15s. Then the club captain presented a signed team photo to first team trainer George Paul.

Billy Bird

Nuneaton's prominent inside-forward notched 37 goals in the season.



Goalscorer Supreme

It is unlikely that the goalscoring record of William Hanney will ever be bettered by anyone in the colours of Nuneaton.

The previous season Hanney had represented Market Harborough in the Birmingham Combination, when they had finished the season as champions, and had scored 128 goals in 34 matches. Prior to joining Market Harborough, Hanney had enjoyed a Football League career with Derby County, Birmingham City and Gillingham.

He got his Nuneaton career off to a flyer by scoring four in his first game, against Bromsgrove, at Manor Park.

Throughout his first season he notched 61 goals, including

eight hat-tricks. Unfortunately, Hanney incurred a shoulder injury in the Birmingham Senior Cup final replay against Evesham Town at Highfield Road, and missed four matches at the end of the season, thus restricting his goalscoring opportunities at the end of the season.

In the 1931-32 season, Hanney was even more prolific, notching 73 goals, which included 7 hat-tricks, one double hat-trick, three four-timers and a five goal haul in the FA Cup game against Walsall Phoenix.

In the 1932-33, the club introduced a disastrous policy of not running a reserve side and the team struggled after Christmas, due to injuries, but Hanney still bagged 51 goals, including six hat-tricks.



Nuneaton Town 1930-31

Back row: T. Ellis, F. Payne, G. H. Whewey (chairman), W. Deans (vice-chairman), A. F. Thomas, J. Payne

Middle row: F. J. Perry (hon-secretary), George Paul (trainer), Charlie Higham, Reg Irons, George Lilley, George Brindley, Anker Brookes, J. Baxter, H. 'Bogie' Hall (trainer)

Front row (seated): Harold Riley, Jack Townsend, David Leslie (captain), W. 'Mick' Hanney, J. Scott, William Tuckey,

On ground with trophies: Arthur Lee, Birmingham Senior Cup, Birmingham Combination Shield, Hospital Charity Cup, W. Bird.



Oakengates —Extra Preliminary Round

Nuneaton travelled to Oakengates for an Extra Preliminary Round FA Cup tie.

Oakengates: Vaughan; Hall and Deane; Lee, Chambers and Gough; Pearce, Price, Shakeshaft, Jones and King.

Nuneaton: Hall; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Nuneaton gave evidence of their real ability on Saturday when they forced a draw at Oakengates in the extra-preliminary round of the FA Cup

Indeed, it was only a last minute penalty goal which saved the Birmingham League side from defeat. And yet Oakengates are said to have a very capable side. Then what of Nuneaton?

There can be very little doubt now that Nuneaton have a very strong side. This match was a big test for them and they came out with flying colours.

The visitors gave an excellent all-round display, and the honours of the day went to the defence, which gave an admirable exhibition, Lee being the best defender on view. Hall also did well in goal.

The forwards, too, played well, and although up against a strong defence, gave them plenty to think about. Hanney and Scott were the scorers for Nuneaton and J. Pearce and Lea for Oakengates.

Oakengates —Extra Preliminary Round Replay

Nuneaton welcomed Oakengates to Manor Park for an Extra Preliminary Round FA Cup Replay.

Nuneaton: Hall; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Oakengates: Vaughan; Hall and Deane; Lee, Chambers and Gough; Pearce, Price, Shakeshaft, Jones and King.

Some exciting football was seen at Manor Park last night in the Oakengates replay, and a big crowd of spectators found plenty to thrill them.

Pearce put the visitors ahead after twelve minutes play from a centre by King, but thirteen minutes later great work by Hanney enabled Bird to equalise, and in the next minute, Townsend placed Nuneaton in front following a clever forward attack.

The football continued to be of a thrilling character, and Nuneaton went very close to increasing their advantage, while Price placed over for Oakengates with the goal at his mercy. Nuneaton led by the odd goal in three at half-time.

Nuneaton again had most of the play during the early part of the second half, and went close to increasing their lead once or twice, but from one of the visitors occasional breakaways, Shakeshaft bundled the ball through to equalise after Hall had only partially cleared a fast long drive.

At the end of 90 minutes the score was two each, and extra-time was played, but there was no further scoring.

It was one of the finest games seen at Manor Park for some considerable time. Nuneaton were undoubtedly the better team in the first half, but after the change of ends, Oakengates did most of the attacking. Had either side won during extra time, they would have been lucky.

Both defences played well, but Oakengates were perhaps a little more methodical in attack. Chambers was outstanding for Oakengates and Lee for Nuneaton.

Oakengates —Extra Preliminary Round Second Replay

Nuneaton welcomed Oakengates to Manor Park for an Extra Preliminary Round FA Cup Second Replay.

Nuneaton: Hall; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Medhurst and Leslie; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Scott and Townsend.

Oakengates: Vaughan; Hall and Deane; Lee, Chambers and Gough; Pearce, Price, Shakeshaft, Jones and King.

A goal by Price for Oakengates less than two minutes from the end put Nuneaton Town out of the English Cup, the visitors winning by the odd goal in five.

Price's winner came just when the spectators were looking forward to extra-time again being played, and the home team's defeat disappointed them greatly.

Oakengates deserved to win if only for the fact that they were a man short all of the second half. Vaughan was injured, and Pearce took his place in goal.

The losers gave a frankly disappointing display, but had only themselves to blame for losing. They had enough chances to have won the game, but frittered them away in a manner which greatly irritated supporters.

Hanney, Scott and Townsend all missed gilt edged chances.

Oakengates played very pluckily, but were helped by defensive blunders. Hall made a bad mess of things when they got their second goal, and Brookes mis-kicked frequently.

Hall is not a goalkeeper who inspires by his work. Nuneaton halves were moderate and gave the visitors forwards too much room to work in. Brindley was probably the best of the line.

It was Nuneaton's first defeat of the season.



Birmingham Combination: Fixtures, Results & Scorers- 1930-31

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers
08.30	Bromsgrove Rovers	Home	League	10-0	Hanney (4), Bird (3), Scott (2), Pick
09.01	Hinckley United	Home	NCC Final	4-0	Hanney (2), Bird (2)
06.09	Oakengates	Away	FAC EP	2-2	Hanney, Scott
	Oakengates	Home	FAC EP Replay	2-2	Bird, Townsend
13.09	Leamington Town	Home	BSC 1	6-2	Hanney (2), Hurst (2), Scott and Townsend
17.09	Oakengates	Home	FAC EP2nd Replay	2-3	Bird, Pick
20.09	Market Harborough	Away	League	3-3	Hanney (2), Pick
27.09	Rugby Town	Home	League	6-0	Hanney (4), Scott, Pick
04.10	Birmingham City A	Home	League	1-2	Pick
11.10	Gresley Rovers	Home	League	3-4	Bird, Hanney, Scott
18.10	Bloxwich Strollers	Away	League	4-1	Hanney (3), Bird
25.10	Leamington Town	Away	League	7-2	Hurst (3), Hanney (2), Bird, Townsend
01.11	Redditch Town	Home	League	3-0	Hanney, Bird, Pick
08.11	Rugby Town	Home	BSC 2	10-1	Higham (4), Hanney (3), Pick (2), Musson
15.11	Halesowen	Home	League	5-0	Hanney (2), Townsend, Brindley, Higham
22.11	Atherstone Town	Away	League	3-8	Bird (2), Pick
29.11	Darlaston	Home	League	1-2	Bird
06.12	Hednesford Town	Home	BSC 3	5-0	Hanney (2), Scott (2), Pick
13.12	Birmingham Trams	Home	League	7-2	Hanney (3), Bird (3), Townsend
20.12	Cannock Town	Away	League	3-3	Hanney (2), Scott
25.12	Hinckley United	Away	League	1-2	Bird
26.12	Hinckley United	Home	League	4-1	Hanney (4)
27.12	Cannock Town	Home	League	3-0	Hanney (2), Bird
03.01	Birmingham Trams	Away	League	5-2	Townsend (2), Hanney, Pick, Payne
10.01	Bournville Athletic	Home	League	4-2	Hanney, Bird, Pick, Stanley
17.01	Darlaston	Home	BSC S-F	4-2	Hanney, Bird, Townsend, Brindley
24.01	Market Harborough	Home	League	4-2	Hanney (2), Bird (2)
31.01	Rugby Town	Away	League	4-1	Hanney (2), Bird (2)
07.02	Aston Villa A	Home	LHC S-F	0-1	
14.02	Gresley Rovers	Away	League	4-2	Hanney (4)
21.02	Bloxwich Strollers	Home	League	6-1	Hanney (2), Riley (2), Townsend, Pick
28.02	Leamington Town	Home	League	5-3	Hanney (4), Pick
07.03	Redditch Town	Away	League	1-0	Hanney
14.03	Evesham Town	Home	League	3-1	Bird (2), Hanney
21.03	Halesowen	Away	League	6-4	Hanney (3), Bird, Pick, Own Goal
28.03	Evesham Town	At Redditch	BSC Final	1-1	Bird
04.04	Darlaston	Away	League	1-5	Hanney
06.04	Birmingham City A	Home	League	2-1	Brindley, Pick
09.04	Evesham Town	At Coventry	BSC Final Replay	4-2	Bird, Townsend, Riley, Hanney
11.04	Bromsgrove Rovers	Away	League	4-1	Bird (2), Scott, Pick
13.04	Atherstone Town	Home	League	3-0	Bird, Scott, Townsend
18.04	Walsall LMS	Home	League	6-2	Scott (2), Bird, Riley, Townsend, Brindley
22.04	Evesham Town	Away	League	2-1	Townsend, Bird
27.04	Bournville Athletic	Away	League	1-1	Bird
	Pick of the League	Home	Friendly	1-1	Pick
02.05	Walsall LMS	Away	League	1-1	Bird

Legend: NCC – Nuneaton Charity Cup; BSC – Birmingham Senior Cup; LHC – Leamington Hospital Cup

New Co-op Club Opened By Mr J. Bent

“This is not going to be a political club; it is going to be run on non-political lines, and we are going to make it ‘go,’” said Mr Joseph Bent (Secretary of the Nuneaton Co-operative Society), in opening the Employees’ Social and Sports Institute in Dugdale Street, Nuneaton.

The Institute is a converted residence formerly in the occupation of Mr A. Shute. A plot of land at the rear has been utilised for extensions, and the club building now consists of a large general club room with bar and billiard table, and decorated in Jacobean style with polished oak floor and seating accommodation all round. On the ground floor there is also a ladies’ room and steward’s quarters. Upstairs are large and small club rooms, reached by ascending the main staircase which connects with the entrance hall.

Mr A. J. Harker (Chairman of the Club Committee) presided over the opening ceremony, which attracted a considerable gathering. The great day had arrived, said Mr Harker, and he now hoped that the members of the Society would rally round and make it the finest club in the district. They were out to make it a kind of club where members could bring their wives and spend a social evening with everyone conducting themselves in a manner which would uphold the good name of the Society.

1931-32

First Trial Match

Nuneaton Town’s first public trial game at Manor Park attracted a gate of between 7-800 spectators and seemed to show that the club has picked up some very useful material for the coming season.

With the exception of three, all of last season’s first eleven were on view. Bird was unable to play, and his place was taken by Arthur Smith, a former Nuneaton Town player. The left wing weakness will be remedied apparently by the inclusion of Orton (formerly of Market Harborough), who made an ideal partner for Townsend, and showed real craft in attack.

Another outstanding new player was Haines, who came from Evesham. He appeared at inside-right, and distinguished himself by scoring two goals – the reward of persistent and forceful raiding.

All the member of last season’s team showed up well – Hanney, Leslie and Townsend in particular. The former impressed by scoring a hat-trick and by his soundness in attack. Leslie, in the centre-half position, fully maintained his brilliant form of last season. Townsend was prominent for his accurate centring, from which three of the eight goals registered by the Blue and

Whites were the outcome. Lee, Brookes, Lilley and Brindley all played a consistently sound game.

In the opposing eleven, composed in the main of last year’s reserve eleven, only Black and Astle (Bournville) distinguished themselves to any extent.

The result of the game was eight goals to one in favour of the Blue and Whites, who showed better understanding in attack. The goals were scored for the winners by Hanney (3), Haines (2), Orton (2) and Brindley (penalty). Stanley replied for the Red and Whites. The teams, as they lined up at the start, were:

Blue and Whites: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; A. Smith, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Red and Whites: Richardson; Snow and Black; Irons, Ridgeway and J. Hall; Sheffield, Astle, Stanley, G. Hall and Robinson.

The Red and Whites eleven, changed after the interval, lined up as follows: Joyce; Mattison and Dawes; R. Ashfield, L. Ashfield and Edwards; Hand, May, C. Faulkes, Martin and Bayliss.

Second Trial Match

Nuneaton Town’s second public trial game at Manor Park attracted another large gate, and though the game was too one-sided to be really thrilling, the match provided the spectators with abundant proof that Nuneaton will again be a force to be reckoned with in the Birmingham Combination.

The Blue and Whites (the probable first team) were again vastly superior to the Red and Whites, the score ending in favour of the former by seven goals to nil.

Chief interest centred around the Town’s two latest newcomers – Bunn, a former Tottenham Hotspur player, and Hurst, a schoolboy international. Neither appeared until after the interval, but both impressed, the former for his forceful defensive work and the latter for his stylish forward play.

The Probables were content to take matters easy in the first half, and it was half-an-hour before the first goal was scored. Two more were added before the interval, and with the re-arrangement of the teams for the second half, four more goals were netted before the finish.

The Red and Whites’ defence found the opposing forward line too much for them to successfully cope with. Hanney showed that he had maintained that splendid form which characterised his play last season. His leadership was excellent and the two goals to his credit were proof of his seemingly never-failing marksmanship and opportunism.

Orton, playing inside-left to Hanney in the Blue and White eleven, gave a brilliant exhibition and scored three of the seven goals. Pick distinguished himself on the right wing, with his faultless manipulation of the ball and his cutting-in. Townsend, on the left wing, was not as prominent as in the previous week, but gave a sound display.

“Billy” Bird made his first appearance this season at right

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half-back, taking the place of Medhurst. There was little or no fault to find in his display, and he was generally too good for the opposing wingmen.

The fact that no goals were scored against them – and the Red and Whites were no mean opponents, is proof in itself of the soundness of the Probables' defence. Lilley found a little more to do than was the case the previous Saturday, but he was always capable and to be relied upon. Lee and Brookes were generally too strong for the opposing defence.

For the Red and Whites, Black and Snow were two able defenders and Stanley and Hall the two most useful forwards. The teams as they lined up at the start were:

Blue and Whites: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Red and Whites: Richardson; Black and Snow; Irons, Ridgway and A. Smith; B. Ashfield, Fowkes, Stanley, G. Hall and Robinson.

In the second half, Bunn was right full back for the Blue and Whites, and Haines inside-right. The Red and Whites team was: Hammond; Black and Snow; Irons, Ridgway and J. Hall; Sheffield, Webb, Stanley, Hurst and Martin.

Nuneaton Town v Gresley Rovers 29-08-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Gresley: Waring; Wheeldon and Clements; Chambers, Poultney and Wardle; G. Bird, Fowler, Watts, Claye and Topliss.

Town welcomed Gresley Rovers to Manor Park for the first Birmingham Combination game of the 1931-32 season.

Chief interest from the home supporters' view, centred round Orton (formerly of Market Harborough) and Haines (of Evesham). The former proved that he is indeed a 'capture' and his inclusion at inside-left – this position was the chief weakness in Nuneaton's team last year – considerably added to the strength of the attack.

Haines was not so prominent. Apparently he is an opportunist. The last goal of the match, scored by him, showed that. With the exception of this one goal, he did little that was worthy of record. He has appeared in both the trial games and was expected to do better.

He seemed to lack enthusiasm for the game, and this was reflected in the right wing play. Hanney, at centre-forward, did not seem too eager to feed this wing and in consequence it was not perhaps such a force as the left wing was.

Townsend found Orton an admirable partner and together they pierced the Gresley defence time and time again. It was the admirable combination between the left wing pair that led to Hanney giving Nuneaton the lead after twelve minutes' play. Orton first secured the ball and swung it outwards along the wing to Townsend. The extreme winger carried on down the line and then sent in a perfect centre. Hanney met the

ball and placed it into the net well out of Waring's hands. Townsend was indirectly responsible for the fourth goal. He put in a long range shot, but Waring caught the ball. Before the Gresley keeper could clear, however, Haines had bundled him into the net.

The third goal, scored 13 minutes after the interval, followed a neat piece of heading. Hanney first headed towards goal and Waring punched clear. Haines took the ball and headed across to Pick and the latter touched the ball just inside the post. On the day's play, the Nuneaton halves were too good for the Gresley offensive, but Lee and Brookes have been seen to better advantage. Although their play was generally sound they were never too sure on the ball.

The Nuneaton goal was never seriously threatened and Lilley, in consequence found little was required of him. Waring kept a wonderful goal for the visitors.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 31-08-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Stringer, Astle, Haines, Orton and Townsend.

Hinckley: Godderidge; Campton and Ring; Johnson, Simons and Wesson; Dormer, Trew, Lawrence, Smith and McGregor.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Charity Cup. There was a gate of almost 3,000. Hanney and Pick were unavailable and their places were taken by local lad Stringer and ex-Bournville inside-right Astle. Hinckley were without Mason at centre-forward, his place being filled by Lawrence.

Neither team showed any marked superiority in the first half, though Hinckley were hard triers and deserved to some extent, the goal lead they secured before the interval. Lee, the home right-back, let in McGregor who passed to Lawrence for the visiting centre-forward to touch past Lilley.

After the interval, Nuneaton were the aggressors and drew level in the first two minutes, with Astle converting a centre from Townsend. Six minutes' later the home team took the lead when Brindley put past Godderidge from thirty yards. There was no further scoring.

Hinckley are to be sympathised with to some extent because throughout the game, and even after Town had taken the lead, they played with dogged determination. Their forwards were a speedy line and only the brilliant defensive play of Lee prevented them being more effective. Trew, their captain, and formerly of Nuneaton, gave a sparkling display and was ably assisted by the left-wing man, McGregor. With Hanney and Pick absent, Town's forwards lacked the necessary combination and penetration which characterised their play on Saturday. Leslie was decidedly weak at centre-half, but the steady play of the two wing halves and the general soundness of the full-backs was sufficient to quell Hinckley's attack.

The Mayor, Alderman F. P. Pembleton, presented the cup to the Nuneaton captain, Mr D. Leslie.



Nuneaton Town v Leamington Town 07-09-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Astle, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Leamington: C. Taylor; Toney and Partridge; Shanks, Knox and Compton; Thomas, Lees, Clarke, Gisbourne and J. Taylor.

Nuneaton welcomed Leamington Town to Manor Park for a Nuneaton Hospital Cup semi-final tie. Nuneaton were without the services of Pick, whose place was taken by Astle. Leamington played J. Taylor on the extreme left and Gisbourne, formerly of Atherstone, at inside-left. There was a crowd of 1,500.

The game opened rather tamely, with Nuneaton unable to make headway against a team that eventually proved no match for them. Gradually the "Nuns" found the measure of their opponents, and after 15 minutes' play went ahead when Orton headed into the net from Astle's centre. The Leamington keeper could only deflect the ball into the side of the net. Hanney missed an open goal before Gisbourne looked a likely scorer, but Lilley flung himself at the ball.

Nuneaton increased their lead after 30 minutes when Orton shot following a pass from Townsend and a Leamington defender deflected the ball out of Taylor's reach.

The home side continued to dominate after the interval and Hanney added to their first-half lead five minutes after the resumption. The same player put through again five minutes later, and completed the hat-trick immediately afterwards. Townsend scored Nuneaton's sixth and final goal from a difficult angle with 25 minutes to go. Nuneaton should have further increased their score during the remaining part of the game, for many were the opportunities allowed to pass. Leamington tried hard to reduce the arrears, but were unable to pierce the strong home defence.

Hanney and Orton were Nuneaton's most prominent forwards, but Haines failed to combine with Hanney or Astle to any advantage. Astle, in the first half, appeared lost in the outside-right position, but improved as he settled down. Both Lee and Brookes were too strong for the opposition, while Lilley made several good clearances, but on the whole had little to do.

Bloxwich Strollers v Nuneaton Town 12-09-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Bloxwich: Whittingham; Dobson and Hinton; Smith, Partridge and Burdett; Kimm, Claffy, Phillips, Jeavons and Jones.

Nuneaton travelled to Bloxwich Strollers for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Throughout the first half, Nuneaton were easily the superior team, but crossed over with only a one goal lead. This was scored by Hanney in the first minute of the game. Meeting a centre from Townsend, the "Nuns" centre-forward had little difficulty in placing the ball in the back of the net from fairly

close range. This was the only goal scored in the first half, and Bloxwich were lucky to escape with such a small deficit against them. Time and again Nuneaton appeared to be on the verge of scoring, only to be robbed at a critical period.

In one instance, Whittingham, the Bloxwich keeper, dropped the ball when trying to clear from Orton, only for the ball to be dribbled away and cleared. Later Pick went clean through the home defence but delayed his centre. The Town forward line was thrown out of gear to some extent by the continued offside traps planned by the Bloxwich defence. There was no doubt that the home defenders were "rattled" by the keenness of the Nuneaton forward line and took this course in order to avoid further goals being scored again them.

The "Nuns" defence was not called upon to any great extent in the first-half, but defended well when Bloxwich took the ball into their half.

Nuneaton resumed the offensive after the break, and after Hanney had bundled the ball into the net, only for the goal to be disallowed for offside, and Townsend had shot just wide of the upright, the visitors increased their first half lead when Hanney converted a centre from Townsend. From this stage of the game Nuneaton gradually fell away.

Town's forward movements began to lack penetrative power, and play was transferred to the Nuneaton half. Bloxwich asserted themselves, and reduced the lead 15 minutes from the close. Lilley ran out of goal to intercept a pass and secured the ball only to be charged and the ball was knocked out of his hands. Phillips, the home centre-forward, touched the ball into the net.

Nuneaton redoubled their efforts to add to their lead, but Bloxwich were not to be denied and with 10 minutes to go, Phillips netted with a brilliant shot. The play during the final minutes was very thrilling and both teams strove for victory, but Nuneaton snatched the lead with three minutes to go. Hanney touched home following Pick's centre, netting the winner and securing his hat-trick.

Nuneaton Town v Rugby Town 26-09-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Rugby: Harbon; Edge and Burrows; Buckley, Jones and Jenkins; Trivett, A. S. Taylor, G. A. Taylor, Randall and Brown.

Nuneaton welcomed Rugby Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Rugby kicked off and were first to attack, but Brown's centre went astray. At the other end Orton passed to Townsend, but the latter placed behind the line. Haines kicked over the bar when presented with a favourable opportunity. Keeping up the pressure, Townsend had a clear run at goal, when unmarked, but Edge charged his shot down.

After a prolonged raid, Nuneaton were awarded a penalty for handball and Hanney opened the scoring after 10



minutes. Three minutes later, Pick scored the home team's second goal from a pass by Haines. Harbon saved well from Hanney, whilst Jones headed away from Leslie. The Rugby defence showed up well at this period and survived a severe bombardment. In a brief Rugby raid Jenkins hit the crossbar with a fast shot.

Play for the next 15 minutes was very tame, Nuneaton doing most of the pressing, but being weak in their shooting. A bright feature was the fine goalkeeping of Harbon in the Rugby goal. Just before the whistle blew for half-time Pick scored again for Nuneaton.

Immediately after the break, Nuneaton were awarded a penalty for an foul on Pick, who took the spot-kick himself and scored the home team's fourth goal. G. A. Taylor, the visitors' centre-forward, broke clear and although Lee made a desperate attempt to overhull him, he failed and Taylor had no difficulty in netting. Hanney then scored twice in succession for Nuneaton, both shots giving Harbon no chance. Nuneaton kept up the attack right to the end, but there was no further scoring.

The Rugby custodian, Harbon, made many fine saves, which would have caused many keepers problems. Nuneaton's superiority lay in the forward line, with the best being Hanney, Orton and Pick.

Nuneaton Town v Evesham Town 10-10-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Evesham: Barnett; Stokes and Allard; Crawford, Smith and Moore; Bradley, Evans, Austin, Knight and Millership.

Nuneaton welcomed Evesham Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Early on the visitors showed that they were not to be trifled with. A number of dangerous raids, in which Millership at outside-right, figured prominently, gave the home defence a worrying time. At the other end Hanney shot wide and Barnett showed his capabilities by effecting a brilliant clearance from a difficult angle. A strict watch was being kept on Hanney who up till now had done little of note.

Fifteen minute from the start, however, he was able to centre the ball to Haines, following a free-kick, for the latter the head into the net. Nuneaton kept up the pressure, but the shooting from the home forwards left something to be desired. Several times Hanney turned the ball over the bar or just wide of the upright. This seemed to encourage the visitors and with 15 minutes to go before the interval, Evesham swept down the field and Moore, the left-half, equalised with a shot from at least 25 yards. It was a really brilliant shot from such a distance and Lilley was powerless to save it as it dropped into the corner of the net.

Just before the interval Evesham all but took the lead when a collision between the Nuneaton full-backs left the Evesham

forwards with only Lilley to beat. Bird, however, came to the rescue and saved a dangerous situation by racing in and clearing a critical situation. While neither side gave an exhibition of polished football in the first half, the visitors showing perhaps the better understanding.

In the second half, the visitors improved considerably, and after Hanney had failed when confronted with an easy scoring opportunity, they settled down to a continued spell of attacking. The goal that gave them the lead and victory was a gem, and was the result of a neat combined effort between the halves and forwards. Passing from Crawford, at right-half, to Bradley on the wing, the ball was returned to the centre where Evans took possession and hooked it across to Millership for the outside-right to race in and place the ball past Lilley.

The home side were gradually being outplayed, and only the superb goalkeeping of Lilley kept the visitors from increasing their lead. Towards the close, however, Nuneaton rallied, but their recovery came too late, and they left the field beaten by a better team.

Nuneaton Town v Market Harborough 24-10-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Market Harborough: Harris; Paynter and Hebbs; Reynolds, Medhurst and G. Varnham; Reeve, Rayner, McClure, Young and P. Varnham.

Nuneaton welcomed Market Harborough to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Having the advantage of the wind the Town quickly assumed superiority and a minute after Orton had given them the lead, Pick send a well-directed centre across, which Hanney took in his stride and converted with ease. Prior to Hanney's goal, the game had been contested in a tame way and after a hectic few minutes again became uninspiring until just before the interval, when Nuneaton scored three times in as many minutes.

Leslie's goal, scored after 32 minutes, completely baffled Harris, who in running out, allowed the ball to bounce clean over his head and into the goal. Hanney headed in Nuneaton's fourth goal, and Orton, after striking the upright, netted the fifth from the rebound.

The second half was of a more even nature, and Nuneaton could only increase their first-half lead by one goal, scored 15 minutes after the interval by Orton.

Both Hanney and Orton, playing against their former team, were more than a match for the Harborough defence and of the six goals scored Orton secured three and Hanney two. Pick did not receive the support his brilliance warrants and it would be well if he was given more to do.

There were no weaknesses in the play of Lee and Brookes, whilst Lilley in goal, was hardly called on to make a save. Leslie did not show the improvement in form that characterised his play in the previous game.



Leamington Town v Nuneaton Town 07-11-1931

Leamington: C. Taylor; Partridge and Coldicott; Shanks, Knox and Moseley; Thomas, Lees, Howell, J. Taylor and Clarke.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Leamington Town for a Birmingham Senior Cup second round tie.

Nuneaton's first goal came after 18 minutes' play, as the result of a penalty awarded against Shanks for jumping. Hanney scored easily from the spot. Subsequent play saw the home team on the defensive and Nuneaton increased their lead when Orton converted a centre from the left-wing after 32 minutes. Leamington retaliated, and with Lee unable to clear, Clarke hooked the ball past Lilley.

Before the interval, however, Hanney scored following a scrimmage in the Leamington goalmouth.

Although Leamington were aggressive after the break, their forwards failed against the strong opposition defence, and Nuneaton returned to the attack, and went further ahead when Hanney scored his third goal and Nuneaton's fourth some five minutes after the interval.

Despite this reverse Leamington were by no means beaten and Lees took advantage of a moment of hesitancy as the Nuneaton defence were vainly appealing for a free-kick, Lees placed the ball into the net with a rising shot. Moseley, the Leamington left-half was injured and had to leave the field, but Leamington continued to attack and Lees converted Clarke's centre with 20 minutes to go.

With the score at 4-3 to the visitors, Leamington went all out for the equaliser and the resulting play was interesting in the extreme. Nuneaton, however, asserted their superiority, and three further goals were added in the last seven minutes – Haines, Hanney and Orton being the scorers. Nuneaton were content to take matters easy throughout the game and except for brief intervals did not extend themselves.

Hanney was again outstanding and scored four of Nuneaton's seven goals. The defence was not quite so effective as in previous games and were inclined to take their opponents too lightly.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham Trams 21-11-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Trams: Canning; Greathead and Humphries; May, Biddle and Campbell; Matthews, Loche, Foy, Dowling and Smith.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham Trams to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The crowd was well below the average.

Nuneaton took the lead when Greathead, the visitors' right full-back, headed into his own goal in an endeavour to clear

a terrific shot from Leslie. Play was never interesting until the visitors rallied determinedly and a neat forward movement led to Matthews equalising with a brilliant cross-shot that had Lilley completely beaten.

Except for this one movement the visitors had shown little promise. Nuneaton, however, were far from sure in front of goal and despite the fact that they were continually on the offensive the Trams surprised the crowd by running straight down the field and taking the lead when Smith converted Matthews' centre. This was entirely against the run of play and Nuneaton asserted themselves and equalised through Pick.

An unusual incident occurred right on the interval. Town were in the visitors' penalty area and Leslie had obtained possession of the ball. He sent in a high shot that had Canning completely beaten, but the referee sounded his whistle for half-time while the ball was in the air and before it entered the net.

In the second half, Nuneaton went ahead through goals by Haines (2) and Hanney (3), but even the five goals scored did not truly represent their many goal-scoring opportunities.

The visitors were a completely disorganised side. No less than eight changes were made in the selected eleven, and Nuneaton experienced little difficulty in holding them. The home side were not without their faults. Positional play was at a discount and the passing left much to be desired.

Bournville Athletic v Nuneaton Town 28-11-1931

Bournville: Oliver; Passent and Regan; Best, Line and Sheppard; Palmer, Bloxham, Tittoway, Owen and Hartner.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Astle and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to face Bournville Athletic in a Birmingham Combination game.

Nuneaton made a promising start and they were favoured with more of the play in the opening stages and were able to take the lead after only eight minutes when Haines headed home from a corner kick by Townsend.

The Cocoa-Boys stubbornly defended against the repeated onslaught of Town's attacks, but were again beaten after 25 minutes' play, when the Bournville keeper failed to deal with a fierce drive from Townsend. Two minutes later Astle, who had replaced Orton at inside-right, put Nuneaton further ahead.

The home side missed from a penalty, taken by Best, but just before the interval, Owen reduced Nuneaton's lead with a splendid effort.

Nuneaton opened strongly after the break and Oliver was called upon at frequent intervals. It was Bournville, however, who scored next when, taking advantage of a blunder on the part of the visiting defence, Hartner found the net. There was no further scoring, although both sides missed chances. Nuneaton, however, were the more aggressive team to the end, but finished weakly.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Nuneaton owed their victory mainly to the strong defensive tactics of the rear division, and no so much to the front line, the members of which did not show their usual scoring ability. Taking the play all through, Nuneaton were the better balanced side and much the stronger in defence. Lee and Brookes were far more dependable than the Bournville pair when under pressure.

Redditch v Nuneaton Town 05-12-1931

Redditch: Hearne; Winnett and Thomas; Townsend, Jeavons and Phillips; Rankle, Morgan, Jennings, Gunn and Leadbeater.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Redditch for a Birmingham Senior Cup third round tie.

Nuneaton were rarely seen as an attacking force in the first-half and Redditch took the lead in the first minute, through Jennings, following a wild scrimmage in front of the Nuneaton goal. A retaliating movement led to Townsend centring, but the Nuneaton inside forwards were too slow to take advantage.

Nuneaton were unlucky not to have equalised when Brindley send in a terrific shot which struck the upright with Hearne completely beaten and Leslie headed wide from the rebound. Lee's failure to hold the Redditch left-wing resulted in Rankle testing Lilley. Nuneaton were doing little more than holding their own when after 19 minutes play, Morgan, the Redditch inside-right, ran clean through the "Nuns" defence to increase his team's lead. Lilley could only partially save, the ball bouncing from the post into the net.

Nuneaton failed to cope with the determined Redditch movements and the home team further increased their lead when, 15 minutes before the interval, Jennings scored following a corner. Brookes failed to clear and Jennings won possession. His shot struck Lilley on the body and rebounded to the centre-forward's feet. This time he had little difficulty in placing the ball into the net.

Four minutes later the home side registered its fourth goal, when Leadbetter shot into an empty net after Lilley had flung himself forward in an endeavour to intercept a pass across the goal-mouth. Nuneaton replied about five minutes before the interval with a goal scored by Brindley, who had changed positions with Orton.

Redditch still maintained their first-half superiority on the resumption, and a fifth goal was added eight minutes after the interval. Dunn was the scorer. As the game progressed, Nuneaton rallied somewhat, but their movements lacked finishing power and scoring ability.

Redditch were full value for their victory and the whole team deserve credit for their first-rate display. The Nuneaton attack never showed up to advantage, and Pick was the best of a moderate front line.

Walsall LMS v Nuneaton Town 12-12-1931

Walsall: Russell; Thornhill and Whitehouse; Humpage, Baynton and Walters; Kelly, Burns, Fletcher, Welch and Shires.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Smith, Leslie and Orton; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Astle and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Walsall LMS for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Walsall opened quite well and surprised Nuneaton by taking the lead after only seven minutes' play. Burns was the scorer, and his shot gave Lilley absolutely no chance whatsoever. Prior to this, Nuneaton had failed to cross the halfway line, but pulled together sufficiently to take play into the home territory now they were in arrears.

Hanney gave a glimpse of his true form when he scored the equaliser for Nuneaton by taking Smith's forward pass on the run and with a terrific drive, placed the ball just inside the post. Again the opportunism of the Nuneaton forward line led to direct results. Two minutes after Nuneaton had equalised, Bird put them in front following a bad mistake by Thornhill, who kicked clean over the ball as it ran towards him. Bird, quick to take advantage of such an opportunity, raced in and placed the ball into the net well out of Russell's reach.

Nuneaton's third and final goal came immediately after the break, when straight from the kick-off, the forwards swung the ball down the field. Townsend secured on the left wing and his centre was converted by Astle with a brilliant first-time effort. There was no further scoring and the play that followed was of a dull and listless character.

Nuneaton were well below their usual form, but worthy winners. Their defence was sufficiently strong to hold the opposing forward line, but no more. Orton, at left half-back, was perhaps the most prominent defender in the Nuneaton team. Leslie, at centre-half, showed some improvement in his play, but Smith, the reserve right half-back, failed to come up to expectations. Lee and Brookes, with Lilley in goal, were generally sound. The forwards failed to combine to any decided advantage.

Hinckley United v Nuneaton Town 25-12-1931

Hinckley: A. Godderidge; Compton and King; Johnson, Simons and Wesson; Dormer, Riley, G. Godderidge, Trew and McGregor.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Smith, Leslie and Orton; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Brindley and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the short journey to The Holywell, home of Hinckley United, on Boxing Day. There was a record crowd with a large contingent of Nuneaton supporters.

Nuneaton were rarely seen at their best. The forwards, on the whole, gave a disappointing display. They failed to combine with any effectiveness, and positional play was at a discount. The right wing pair of Bird and Pick, were the only two forwards who combined together to any advantage. Leslie



put in any amount of hard work at centre-half, while Lee and Brookes both gave useful displays, though their clearances were somewhat erratic. Lilley gave a good exhibition in goal.

Hinckley crossed over one goal in the lead, scored by Godderidge, their diminutive centre-forward, with a long drive after only three minutes' play.

Town improved in the second half, but failed to pierce the well-guarded Hinckley goal. Hinckley, on the other hand, increased their first-half lead with a goal scored after 79 minutes. Godderidge shot for Trew to deflect the ball past Lilley.

Bird, Townsend and Lee, former Hinckley favourites, were included in the Nuneaton side, and Johnson, Wesson, Trew, Daumer and Riley, who have all played for Nuneaton, were in Hinckley colours.

The game was keenly contested and the first half especially yielded numerous exciting episodes. In the second half, however, both teams dropped away, and as the game progressed it became less exciting and interesting.

United well merited their victory, for they were the most determined side and possessed a thrustful set of forwards against whom the strong Nuneaton defence could not prevail. The Nuneaton forwards failed against the confident Hinckley defence. Godderidge, the United keeper, gave a sparkling display between the posts, and seemed to possess an uncanny knack of being in the right place at exactly the right moment. He was admirably supported by Campton and King at full-back.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 26-12-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Smith and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Hinckley: A. Godderidge; Compton and King; Johnson, Simons and Wesson; Lawrence, Eastwood, G. Godderidge, Trew and McGregor.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for the return Christmas holiday Birmingham Combination fixture.

The only two goals of the match were scored in the first half. The first came after 20 minutes' play, during which time Nuneaton had been incessantly attacking. A forward movement saw Townsend centre across the goal-mouth for Haines to head smartly past Godderidge. At this stage Hinckley were only playing ten men, Campton, their right full-back having left the field for attention to his boots.

Although Nuneaton were favoured with most of the remaining play up to the interval, very few scoring chances came their way, and in consequence they only increased their lead but once, when Hanney converted a penalty.

In the second half, however, Nuneaton should have piled on the goals, for chance after chance was spoiled by lack of ball control. Hanney and Haines both missed absolutely open goals, and with a little more accuracy in their shooting any one of the forwards might have scored.

Hinckley made a valiant attempt in the second half to reduce the lead, but their chief trouble was that they could not discover any means whereby they could overcome the sturdy, resolute and robust tackling of the Nuneaton defenders. There was a solidity and resource about the Nuneaton defence which proved as effective as it was impressive.

Thrills abounded in the latter stages of the game, and both goals underwent severe pressure, and many miraculous escapes were witnessed by the excited onlookers. For Nuneaton Hanney, Pick and Townsend were always prominent in the front line. Lee and Brookes defended stoutly, and Brindley played a useful game at half-back. Smith gave a good first-half display, but fell away somewhat in the second half.

Godderidge gave another useful exhibition between the Hinckley posts and was in no way to blame for the goals. He made a number of brilliant clearances. Wesson was the outstanding half-back, and McGregor the pick of the forwards.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City A 28-12-1931

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Smith, Bird and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Birmingham A: Mittell; Thornton and Randle; Argue, Sabin and Leslie; Shepperd, Lane, Haywood, Robinson and Hicks.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham City A to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The visitors brought an extremely strong side which virtually consisted of their Central League XI.

Nuneaton had the advantage of a strong wind in the first half and were a goal up after six minutes. Hanney was the scorer, and his shot was the model of accuracy. Mittell was out of his goal, having run out to stop a left-wing attack, but two defenders stood on the goal-line. Hanney's high shot into the top corner of the net beat them both. Birmingham did not appear at all perturbed and put in some good approach work, but the Nuneaton halves held up their advances, and behind them were Lee and Brookes, who kicked and tackled steadily and surely throughout the game.

The visitors failed to penetrate the Nuneaton defence in the first half, although they were awarded a penalty after 16 minutes. Haywood took the penalty, only for Lilley to pull off a brilliant save. Time after time they would reach the Nuneaton penalty area by short passing methods only to be met by redoubtable opposition in the Nuneaton full-backs, and their attacks came to nothing.

Nuneaton further increased their lead after 23 minutes when, following two successive corners, Brindley beat Mittell with a splendid high shot. Neither keeper was troubled for the rest of the half.

In the second half, Nuneaton's defence triumphed over adversity. Handicapped by a wind that appeared to gain velocity and a blinding storm towards the end, and the fast



failing light, they fought heroically to stem the incessant raids of the Birmingham forwards. The visitors were quick to take advantage of such conditions and scored four minutes after the interval through Hicks, who converted Shepperd's centre. About 20 minutes later, during which time they had been constantly on the offensive, the visitors secured the equaliser. Haywood was the scorer.

From then on it was a continual struggle for supremacy between the Nuneaton defence and the Birmingham forwards, and one could not help but applaud the plucky efforts of the home defence against such redoubtable opponents. Nuneaton thoroughly deserved the draw, and but for a certain amount of laxity on the part of the forwards, might easily have won.

Cannock Town v Nuneaton Town	02-01-1932
<p>Cannock: Painter; Butler and Parkes; T. Jones, Lyons and Hall; S. Jones; Thomas, Griffin, Brookes and Ansell.</p> <p>Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Smith, Bird and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.</p>	

Nuneaton travelled to Cannock to play their first Birmingham Combination fixture of 1932.

Set to face a strong wind and driving rain, it was no small wonder that Nuneaton were immediately called upon to defend, but having settled down to the treacherous conditions, they began to take their full share of the play. Cannock, however, had a decided advantage over their visitors and took the lead after 21 minutes play through Brookes, their inside-left.

Nuneaton retaliated and should have equalised shortly after when Hanney was presented with an easy scoring chance. With only the keeper to beat he shot wildly wide. Haines headed wide from a centre, and then the visiting defence was called upon to defend against determined opposing moves. Up to this point there had been little effective shooting, although with 15 minutes to go to the interval, Cannock all but scored again. Nuneaton attacked strongly, but Painter proved to be a stumbling block.

With the advantage of the wind, Nuneaton were immediately aggressive after the break and within two minutes, Townsend found the net with a brilliant cross shot. The goal was disallowed, however, presumably for offside. Undaunted, Nuneaton maintained the pressure and were rewarded six minutes after the interval when Hanney netted with a terrific drive. Painter had to run out to clear from Pick. Lee broke his nose in a collision at this point, but after treatment, carried on.

Hanney was brought down just outside the home penalty area, and from the kick he sent in a fierce shot, which Painter only just managed to deflect out of play. Cannock set up a series of raids, but were well held by the Nuneaton defence. The play was characterised by end-to-end movements, before Nuneaton launched a raid, which led to Pick centring for Orton to score Nuneaton's winning goal with a shot that gave Painter no chance. Just before the final whistle Hanney hit the upright.

Nuneaton Town Re-sign Arthur Fletcher

Nuneaton Town have re-signed Arthur Fletcher, their former half-back, who was transferred to Sheffield United three season ago at a substantial fee.

He will take part in tomorrow's match with Cannock at Manor Park, as right half-back. He is a product of Nuneaton Sunday School football, and came to the fore when he played for Nuneaton Town, firstly as centre-forward and later as half-back. Prior to coming to Nuneaton he played for Loughborough Corinthians.

Nuneaton Town v Cannock Town	09-01-1932
<p>Nuneaton: Lilley; Black and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Brindley; Pick, Burditt, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.</p> <p>Cannock: Painter; Butler and Parkes; Jones, Lyons and Hickenbotham; Terry, Thomas, Evans, Brookes and Ansell.</p>	

Nuneaton welcomed Cannock Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Nuneaton attacked from the start and Parkes had to touch the ball back for Painter to relieve. Burditt made an opening for Hanney, but with only the keeper to beat, he shot weakly and Painter smothered the shot. Hanney sent in a powerful drive, but Painter saved. Nuneaton, however, took the lead after twelve minutes, when Townsend beat the Cannock keeper with a perfect ground shot from a pass by Burditt. A minute later Hanney increased Nuneaton's lead following a pass from Pick.

Nuneaton maintained the pressure and Hanney headed against the crossbar. At the other end Lilley handled the ball for the first time after 18 minutes. Nuneaton completely monopolised the play and a forward movement, in which Orton, Hanney and Fletcher took part, culminated in Orton putting Nuneaton further ahead, after 23 minutes.

Subsequent Nuneaton movements saw Painter save from Orton, and Bird and Burditt hit the side of the net. There was little enthusiasm in the play, and the players were finding the going rather heavy. Close on the interval Hanney scored from a breakaway.

In the second half, Nuneaton were again overwhelmingly superior, and their fifth goal was added 12 minutes after the interval when Orton headed into an open goal from a centre by Pick. Nuneaton's next goal, some ten minutes later, was scored by the Cannock left back, who, in an endeavour to safeguard his goal, inadvertently ran the ball into his own net.

Receiving a pass from Townsend, Pick brought Nuneaton's sum total of goals to seven, with a great long-range shot. Hanney put Nuneaton still further ahead when he dribbled past Painter and touched into an empty net. Just before the close Brindley scored Nuneaton's ninth and final goal with a surprise drive from a long way out.



Gresley Rovers v Nuneaton Town 16-01-1932

Gresley: Sharpe; Wheeldon and Clements; Chambers, Hassall and Cox; Scott, Ormon, Jones, Holland and Hulse.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Brindley; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton Town journeyed to Gresley Rovers for a Birmingham Combination fixture. There was a strong cross-wind and players had difficulty in keeping their feet in the treacherous conditions.

Astle, the former Bournville player made a conspicuous reappearance at inside-right. He made an admirable partner for Pick, and together they were easily the most effective wing pair on the field. Two of Nuneaton's goals were scored by Astle. Hanney found considerable difficulty in manoeuvring for position, but on the whole played well and was indirectly concerned in the scoring of two of his side's four goals.

Bird gave another sound display at centre-half and revelled in the mud. Brindley reached a high standard of excellence in his play and admirably supported Bird in thwarting the opposing advance. Fletcher at right-half, showed a distinct improvement on last week, but he has a tendency to wander. Lee and Brookes were again a capable pair at full-back, while Lilley gave a brilliant exhibition between the posts.

With conditions as they were, it is difficult to criticise the players for the amount of passes that went astray, but had some of them been taken advantage of, Nuneaton would undoubtedly have scored more goals. An example of how difficult it was to judge the ball under such conditions and the great difficulty encountered by the players on both sides to anticipate any possible deflection of the ball is contained in the peculiar circumstances of how Nuneaton obtained their second goal.

The ball was travelling towards the Gresley goal at a fast rate and Sharpe, the home keeper, stood ready to gather the ball and clear, when it stopped dead in a mud patch four yards out of goal. The Gresley defence, too surprised to move, were caught napping by Orton, who raced through and touched the ball into the net, with Sharpe too surprised to make a save.

Gresley were dogged by bad luck throughout the game, for Nuneaton's first goal was in the nature of a gift. Hanney shot towards goal with terrific force and Sharpe, owing for the greasy nature of the ball, failed to hold the shot, which bounced out of his hands in the direction of Astle, who made no mistake in scoring. Nuneaton's third goal, deflected by Cox into his own goal from Hanney's shot, further emphasised Gresley's ill-luck. The final goal of the match fell to Astle, who beat Sharpe with a fast drive.

Nuneaton were the more polished eleven and a better understanding between the defence and forwards went a long way towards victory. The forwards finished off their movements to greater effect than the Gresley front line, whose attacks were too spasmodic to be really impressive.

Nuneaton AFC Transfers

It was officially announced on Saturday last that Haines, the Nuneaton Town inside-right, has been transferred to Evesham Town. Haines was transferred from Evesham to Nuneaton at the beginning of the present season.

David Leslie, centre-half and captain, has also terminated his agreement with the club.

Nuneaton Town v Bloxwich Strollers 23-01-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Brindley; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Bloxwich: Tate; A. Hinton and W. Hinton; Smith, Churchill and Cooks; Taylor, Jackson, Phillips, Clay and Jones.

Nuneaton played host to Bloxwich Strollers in a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Nuneaton pressed from the start and Townsend centred for Fletcher to send wide. Astle sent over, and then Bird, Brindley and Townsend combined well in a subsequent move. Town maintained the pressure and Astle gave them the lead after five minutes' play, heading past Tate from Townsend's centre. Astle also struck the upright following another raid.

Nuneaton increased their lead eight minutes later when Hanney beat Tate with a fast shot after receiving from Pick. Bloxwich had shown but little promise up to this point, and were mainly on the defensive. Their spasmodic attacks were easily repulsed by the strong Nuneaton defence and it was not until 20 minutes play that Lilley handled for the first time.

The visitors improved as the match progressed and Nuneaton experienced a lucky escape when Phillips hit the bar with an open goal in front of him, and from the rebound a Nuneaton defender cleared off the line. At the other end Orton shot over with Tate out of goal. Six minutes before the interval Hanney scored Nuneaton's third goal by heading in from Astle's centre.

Town maintained their first-half superiority after the break and after five minutes play, went further ahead with a fourth goal scored by Orton. Five minutes later, Astle scored Nuneaton's fifth, and after 12 minutes, Hanney netted number six. Both these goals came from centres by Townsend. Then Townsend added a seventh. Bloxwich retaliated and Jones scored his team's only goal. With six minutes to go the home team forced three successive corners, and from the third Orton headed the ball into the net to make the final score 8-1.

Nuneaton Town v Bromsgrove Rovers 30-01-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Brindley; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Bromsgrove: Lydsey; Rees and Jenkin; Moran, Andrews and Taylor; Hipkiss, Scott, Corbett, Hancox and Simmonds.

Nuneaton welcomed Bromsgrove Rovers to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Nuneaton attacked from the start and an exciting incident occurred in the first minute when Lydsey experienced some



difficulty in fielding a header from Hanney. Almost immediately after this Hanney received a foot injury which forced him to retire for attention. The visitors pressed and Lilley saved well, but with the return of Hanney, Nuneaton broke away on the right and Pick sent a beautiful centre across for Astle to give Nuneaton the lead after seven minutes.

At this stage the game was vigorously contested, and a free-kick for Nuneaton caused momentary excitement in the Bromsgrove goal area. A retaliatory movement saw Lilley effect a good clearance from Corbett. In the following play Nuneaton were called upon to defend for a while, and Lilley had to handle shots from both Hipkiss and Corbett.

Pick won possession and after a splendid run along the wing, centred across to Orton, who headed into the net for Nuneaton's second goal. At the other end, Lilley tipped over the bar from Hipkiss and then Nuneaton went away again and Orton sent in a fierce shot which Lydsey attempted to smother. The ball stuck his legs and rebounded to Hanney who scored with ease. Fletcher was injured in the subsequent play and had to retire for a few minutes.

The interval came with the Bromsgrove eleven fighting stubbornly against formidable odds. Although Nuneaton were three goals in the lead they had showed no distinct superiority over their opponents, except in their shooting.

In the second half Nuneaton went further ahead, when after seven minutes, Bird outwitted the Bromsgrove defence and passed to Astle, who completed the movement by beating Lydsey with a powerful drive which gave the keeper no chance. Nuneaton's second-half superiority became more pronounced as the game progressed, and after continued raiding Pick ran clean through the opposition to score a brilliant goal by heading past Lydsey. The "Nuns" winger scored again a few minutes later with a brilliant cross-shot after he had cut through from the wing. Hanney added Nuneaton's seventh and final goal shortly before the finish.

Rugby Town v Nuneaton Town

06-02-1932

Rugby: Clewlow; Jenkin and Burrows; A. Buckley, Pearce and Clarke; Ison, Varnish, Taylor, James and J. Buckley.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Bird and Wilmott; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Rugby Town for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Nuneaton were again in irresistible form throughout the first half. The "Nuns" opening challenge was dangerous, and a nicely placed centre from Pick was cleared in the nick of time by Clewlow. Nuneaton's fondness for concentrating on the right wing was effective, for Pick's centres caused some trouble among the Rugby defenders. A neat centre from Townsend was taken smartly by Orton with his head, but Clewlow had the situation well in hand.

Nuneaton's well-organised attacks were bound to make their

mark sooner or later, and after 12 minutes, Orton opened the scoring by heading home from Astle's centre. Rugby had not recovered from the shock when another goal was registered against them within two minutes, Orton again positioning himself well enough to receive a pass from Townsend and score with ease. Hanney gave Nuneaton their third goal, converting a pass from Astle. Rugby's escape from a further attack was very lucky. Townsend dallied on the left and tempted Clewlow to run out and challenge. The result was a quick centre to Orton, who seemed a certain scorer, but the inside-left sent the ball flying over the bar, with an empty goal.

Quite a different state of affairs ensued throughout the second half. Nuneaton, hitherto much the superior team, were forced to defend against the repeated onslaughts of the Rugby offensive, and within three minutes J. Buckley broke through on the left and centred. Lilley came out but was unable to gather the ball and Taylor scored with comparative ease. Rugby returned to the attack and three minutes later Taylor again scored. From then on a ding-dong battle began, Nuneaton fighting hard to regain some of the ground they had lost and Rugby, enthusiastic over their rather surprising recovery, holding out tenaciously with the hope of securing the equaliser. Rugby's hope in this direction were fulfilled when Jones bundled Lilley off the ball and netted. Enthusiasm was now at its highest pitch, with both teams fighting their hardest to obtain the lead. Thrills were plentiful at this stage but the defences on both sides were able to successfully thwart all opposition efforts and the final whistle went with the scores equal at 3-3.

Nuneaton Town AFC AGM

Payne Brothers Honoured

At the annual meeting of the Nuneaton Association Football Club, at the Newdegate Arms Hotel, last night, a life membership was conferred on both Mr James Payne and Mr Fred Payne for their services to the club over a number of years.

The Chairman, Mr G. H. Wheway, said that one of the directors, Mr James Payne, had seen fit to resign his position, although the term of office had not yet expired. The shareholders knew that several years ago, when the Club was on the verge of bankruptcy, Mr James Payne formulated a scheme to save Manor Park for the Town Football Club. His scheme had now come to fruition and he hoped that Mr Payne would live to see the day when the ground was re-purchased as the property of the Club.

The directors wished to express their appreciation of Mr Jim Payne's services and recommended that a life membership be conferred upon him.

His brother, Mr Fred Payne, also retired from the Board of Directors, and did not offer himself for re-election. Mr Fred Payne had rendered invaluable services to the Club and football in general, and he (Mr Wheway) wished to recommend that a life members be conferred upon Mr Fred Payne also.

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Councillor George Taylor, seconding the recommendation, said he could fully appreciate the services that both Mr Jim and Mr Fred Payne had rendered to the Club. He ventured to suggest that there would have been no club or Manor Park if it had not been for these two gentlemen.

The proposition was carried unanimously, and both gentlemen briefly responded.

The Chairman referred with pleasure to the presence of the Mayor, Alderman F. P. Pembleton, and Councillor G. Taylor. The former, he said, was not only taking a keen interest in the club because he enjoyed the game, but also because he realised the Club was an asset to the Borough, and what a splendid advertisement the doings of the team had been during the past few years.

In moving the adoption of the directors' report, the Chairman made a special appeal for the public to support the remaining fixtures of the second team. The team was at present at the head of the Nuneaton Combination and with only home fixtures to play, certainly looked like gaining the championship.

Mr G. C. Deans, seconding, expressed his disappointment that the profit (£28 2s. 10d.) did not compare favourably with the profit realised in 1929, when the Club won the Birmingham Combination League Championship, but pointed out that circumstances were considerably altered. However, they were more hopeful for the future.

Mr Fred Payne, a retiring director, said that it had been rumoured in town that he was running a team in the Midland League next season in opposition to the Nuneaton Association Club. It was unfair, and he wished to deny it. If it was a fact that he had the time at his disposal to do such a thing he would still have continued to have taken an official part in the affairs of the Nuneaton Club. If, at any time, he did find time, his services would be at the disposal of the senior football club.

Messrs. G. H. Wheway, J. Baxter, S. J. Butler, W. Deans, T. Ellis, G. H. Taylor and A. Thomas were re-elected with the addition of Alderman F. P. Pembleton and Mr T. H. Ford.

In moving a vote of thanks to the directors Mr F. Harbour said he certainly thought they ought to have a better class of football in the town, though he was well aware that the all-important question of finance had to be carefully considered. He sincerely hoped that in future the directors would continue to build up a successful team so that the time would soon come when they could get into a better class league, which would mean increased support from the public.

Nuneaton Town v Leamington Town 13-02-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Bird and Wilmott; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Leamington: C. Taylor; Partridge and Latham; Shanks, Knox and Compton; Howell, Lees, J. Taylor, Want and Trew.

Nuneaton played host to Leamington Town in a Birmingham Combination fixture. Nuneaton have worked their way up to

second place in the table, eight points behind Birmingham A, with six matches in hand.

The weather was bitterly cold, but all that was forgotten in the thrills of a rousing second half game. No less than six goals were scored in this half and twice as many missed. Both goals went under periods of intense pressure and barely a minute passed without some passage in the game raising a gasp of excitement from the spectators, whose loyalty in braving the elements in order to support the game was definitely recompensed by an intensely interesting game.

From the start it seemed as if Nuneaton were not going to experience an easy time. Leamington attacked and forced a corner. They flattered to deceive and a retaliating movement saw Hanney secure and, with a long raking forward pass sent Townsend away on the left. The latter made a brilliant run nearly half the length of the field, with the Leamington defence hard on his heels, before he finally beat the visiting custodian with a shot that was completely deceiving.

Nuneaton increased their lead when Pick made a splendid run down the right. His perfect centre was met by Orton, who shot for the top corner of the net. The visitors' keeper made a heroic attempt to stay its flight, but could only deflect in. Undaunted, Leamington played harder than ever and with a minute to go to the interval, Trew centred and Lilley was unable to gather the ball and Lees touched the ball into the empty net.

In the second half, Nuneaton were much the superior team and further goals were added by Hanney, Astle (2) and Orton. During this time, however, Nuneaton had missed numerous chances. And now, apparently with a feeling that they had done what was expected of them, they began to take things comparatively easy. This, however, proved their undoing and in the last two minutes of the game the visitors scored two goals through Lees and J. Taylor. Nuneaton have only themselves to blame for their failure to watch the Leamington forwards for a more convincing victory than 6-3.

The conditions were against good football. The ground was heavy, and before the end the ball became almost a dead-weight, yet there were many delightful movements which provided the small crowd with many opportunities to applaud.

Evesham Town v Nuneaton Town 20-02-1932

Evesham: Barnett; Barnhurst and Allard; Davis, Bignall and Hughes; Pitman, Haycock, Haines, Knight and Millership.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Smith, Bird and Brindley; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Evesham Town for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

The events of the first half were not very flattering to Nuneaton, who floundered about at the bidding of forwards and half-backs who had a perfect understanding. After seven minutes' play the home side took the lead through former Nuneaton player Haines, who headed in from Pitman's cross.

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Just as everyone expected to see Nuneaton swamped, they equalised. A free-kick landed well in the Evesham goal area and Hanney secured and found the net at close range.

Nuneaton failed to maintain this level state of affairs and before the interval, Haines and Millership added to Evesham's score. The home team looked certain to win at this point, but straight after the break, Nuneaton developed a new life. Eight minutes into the second half, Hanney reduced Evesham's lead when he headed home Townsend's centre. Nine minutes later Nuneaton equalised and Hanney completed his hat-trick.

Evesham, painfully surprised by the turn of events, fought back valiantly and there were innumerable thrills in front of both goals. The home side, however, once more took the lead when Knight beat Lilley with ease. In the last 15 minutes, Nuneaton completely overwhelmed their opponents, and with ten minutes to go Astle equalised with a brilliant screw shot. Nuneaton were best served by Hanney, Townsend and Astle among the forwards

Darlaston v Nuneaton Town 27-02-1932

Darlaston: Edwards; Forrest and Clayton; Walker, Smith and Cooper; Perry, Foster, Chambers, Arblaster and Yates.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Wilmott, Bird and Orton; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Cape and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Darlaston for a Birmingham Combination league match. The visitors were without George Brindley, their consistent right-half.

In the first half, Town were handicapped by a strong wind blowing against them, which had the effect of turning all their shots either over or well wide of the goal. Darlaston, playing uphill, but with their knowledge of the ground, shot at every opportunity.

It was unlucky that Lee, during a scrummage in front of goal, accidentally handled the ball, and Darlaston were awarded a penalty, with Clayton scoring from the spot. Two minutes later Lilley saved from Chambers, but the ball bounced out to the feet of Arblaster, who netted his second goal.

After 17 minutes of the second half, Hanney netted with a brilliant drive, but the referee disallowed the goal for offside, a decision that greatly upset Town, especially when Darlaston rubbed salt into the wound by scoring their third goal shortly afterwards, through Chambers. Foster scored a fourth goal for the home side after 26 minutes. Four minutes later Pick headed home from Townsend's centre, and just before the close Hanney scored with a brilliant drive from 15 yards.

Both defences had a lot of work to do during the match, and centre-half Bird, was a towering figure in the Nuneaton defence. Orton played a sound game at left-half, but Irons allowed Yates too much latitude. Lee and Brookes were generally sound at full-back, and Lilley made a number of remarkably good saves. Hanney and Townsend were forceful and effective raiders.

Market Harborough v Nuneaton Town 05-03-1932

Market Harborough: Edmunds; Medhurst and Hebbs; G. Varnham, Raynolds and Panter; Reece, Rayner, Freeman, Young and P. Varnham.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Irons, Bird and Brindley; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Market Harborough to play a Birmingham Combination league match.

While the match resulted in a close fight between the two rival teams, it must be admitted that it was a wretched, ragged exhibition of football, and that the forward lines were very ineffective on each side. Taking the game as a whole the score was about justified, but very little praise can be apportioned to either the winning or the losing side. Rushes and heavy kicking on each side failed to raise the standard of the play to any marked degree, and the spectators were frankly disappointed.

Most of the forward efforts on each side faded away when the backs came into action, and the game was almost devoid both of exciting goal-mouth incidents and smart shooting. After Market Harborough had scored what was to be the only goal of the match, Town fought pluckily but without much likelihood of pulling the game round, although, taking the game as a whole they had as much play as the home side.

It was entirely their own fault that they did not make a better show as far as the score was concerned, for they had sufficient play to have enabled them to at least register a single goal. Throughout the first half, Nuneaton were much the superior team, but their principal lack was marksmanship. Had the forwards shot with any degree of accuracy, a substantial first half lead should have been the result.

Despite prolonged attacks on the Harborough goal, the "Nuns" failed to make any impression, and the interval found both them and their opponents without a goal to their credit.

In the second half, Harborough's forwards were the busier line and scored the only goal of the match seven minutes after the interval. Rayner, the home inside-right, broke through the Nuneaton defence, and with Brookes close on his heels, scored from a seemingly impossible angle. Spurred on by this unexpected success, Harborough besieged the Nuneaton goal, but failed to add to their lead, while Nuneaton failed to draw level.

There was nothing radically wrong with the Nuneaton defence. Bird, at centre-half, gave another fine exhibition, and was the source of the greatest trouble to the home attackers. Brindley, on his return to the team after illness, gave the best support. Lee and Brookes were also sound defenders. The forwards did not display anything like winning form and were to blame, to a great extent, for their team's defeat.

At present Nuneaton are eleven points behind Birmingham A with five games in hand. On their present showing it is doubtful if they will succeed in winning every one of those matches. Birmingham won at Bournville by five clear goals.

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Nuneaton Town v Atherstone Town 12-03-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Irons, Bird and Brindley; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Hall and Townsend.

Atherstone: Kester; Jefferies and Plumb; Lillicrap, Gilbert and Kind; Askew, Wall, Sharman, Roberts and Danks.

Nuneaton welcomed Atherstone Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination league game.

After watching the game, there is only one conclusion, it is not the team that play the better football or having the majority of the play that wins football matches, it is the team who have been blotted out almost completely for the whole game.

Atherstone's only goal of the match was scored four minutes before the interval and was indirectly due to a foul on the visiting right half-back. From the free-kick the ball was passed to Askew, and he sent in a perfect centre for Roberts to meet the ball with his head and direct it into the net.

Nuneaton's luck held good when Townsend scored the equalising goal 24 minutes after the interval, and the referee dismissed an appeal for offside – a decision about which there seemed a great deal of doubt. One cannot adequately describe the excitement which reigned when Townsend scored the winning goal for Nuneaton in the last minute, and in exactly the same way as the first. Taking a forward pass on the run, the "Nuns" left winger raced through the opposition and again drew Kester out of his goal. There was a momentary and significant silence when Townsend appeared to stumble in his stride, and then the cheering broke out again just as suddenly when he righted himself and drove the ball over Kester's head. Before the shot entered the net, it hit the underside of the crossbar.

Apart from these two solo efforts, Nuneaton were rarely impressive in front of goal. Hanney, the star centre-forward, did a lot of ground work, but was never effective, and was too well watched to be of any assistance to his fellow forwards. The inside-forwards were extremely weak. Atherstone, on the other hand, were continually dangerous up to Nuneaton's goal area. The forwards, particularly the wingers, were fast and thrustful, and it was in their penalty area that Nuneaton had cause to be grateful that they possessed such a splendid pair of full backs as Lee and Brookes.

Of the two teams, the visitors played the better combination football and showed complete understanding between one another. Undoubtedly the coolest player on the field was Gilbert, the Atherstone centre-half. Throughout the game he was a dominant figure. Time after time he frustrated the efforts of Hanney and his inside men.

And so the honours went to the less deserving of the two teams, neither of whom proved anything of startling brilliance. It was a game remarkable for few scoring efforts. Nuneaton seldom got near enough to cause Kester any anxiety, while Atherstone lacked markmanship and found luck against them.

Nuneaton Town v Aston Villa A 19-03-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Irons, Bird and Fletcher; Pick, Brindley, Hanney, Burditt and Townsend.

Aston Villa: Brettle; Latham and Butcher; Poynton, Cornell and Laverick; Lane, Tunstall, Spencer, Dunn and Taylor.

Nuneaton welcomed Aston Villa A to Manor Park for the semi-final of the Leamington Hospital Cup.

Nuneaton's football was of the do-or-die spirit, but their bustling tactics carried them through the day. "Luck" was again their way, for all their three second half goals can be put down as in that category. When Nuneaton equalised some 20 minutes after the interval – the visitors had been leading by two goals to one – the goal was a lucky one, for Pick, the scorer, was completely out of position.

The visitors took the lead once more and the home side, more by luck than judgment, again equalised. Townsend's shot towards goal would have certainly been saved by Brettle had it not been for Burditt, who deflected it out of his reach. Nuneaton's winning goal, scored three minutes from the close, was another lucky one. Hanney, meeting a corner kick from the right, failed to gather the ball properly, and appeared to stumble, but before he could be tackled he recovered himself and hooked the ball into the corner of the net.

In such a manner did Nuneaton win on Saturday after being in grave danger of defeat. Better all-round exhibitions have been seen at Manor Park, but on the whole the game was a well-fought and interesting one, and there was any amount of clean and open play which delighted the spectators. The outstanding feature of Nuneaton's play was sound defensive work in which both Lee and Brookes excelled. Irons, the local boy, who has now been playing in the senior side for some weeks, gave a greatly improved display, and was perhaps the most outstanding half-back on the field.

Bird showed some improvement over the previous week's display and was generally sound. Fletcher failed to impress, dropping back into the half-back line after starting at inside-right. Lilley could not be blamed for any of the goals and was, on the whole, a safe custodian.

Although there was some improvement in the play of the front line, it was more in the nature of individual improvement. They have not reached by a long way the high class of play exhibited in their matches earlier in the season.

Nuneaton Town v Halesowen 26-03-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Snow; Pick, Brindley, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Halesowen: Fradgley; Hacket and Armfield; Grazier, Guest and Moberley; Hedges, Cutler, Plant, Harper and Aston.

Nuneaton welcomed Halesowen to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination encounter.

Apart from a short period in the first half, play was exciting



rather than stylish and the exchanges, in the main, were rather scrappy. There was, however, more method in Nuneaton's scheme of operations. Their forwards, on the whole, moved with greater precision and brought the wingers into action to greater effect. After a moderate opening, Nuneaton assumed superiority and took the lead as a result of a neatly constructed forward movement. Townsend secured on the wing and centred for Hanney, who passed to Brindley, who made no mistake with a terrific drive from close range.

The first goal was scored after 15 minutes, and from then on until the interval Nuneaton were mainly on the offensive. Further goals were added by Townsend (2) and Hanney. The last three were scored within five minutes of the interval. Up to this point, Halesowen had rarely attacked, and even when they did succeed in reaching Nuneaton's goal area, weak finishing spoiled an otherwise sound movement. Several times their forwards were in a position to score, but erratic shooting nullified their chances.

On the resumption, Halesowen rallied in surprising fashion and even went so far as to reduce Nuneaton's lead, when four minutes after the interval, their forwards, taking advantage of a momentary weakness in the home defence, broke through, and Harper registered their only goal of the match. For a while the game was contested fiercely, and Halesowen kept the Nuneaton defenders continually on the run by adopting a fine open style of play. The visitors, however, were unable to stay the pace, and Nuneaton again began to assume the ascendancy, but without adding to their first half lead. The final stages of the game were contested in a rather tame manner.

The better team unquestionably won a moderate game, in which the valiant play of the four backs was perhaps the most pronounced feature. Lee, in particular, gave another of his sound displays. Bird shared the honours of the intermediate lines with Guest. Snow, on his first appearance at left-half for the home side, failed to impress. He indulged in a great deal of wild kicking, and was slow in tackling and in getting away.

Hanney showed up well in attack and gave his inside men chances which they failed to take advantage of. The two wingers, Pick and Townsend, were again prominent.

Nuneaton Town v Walsall LMS 28-03-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Snow; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Walsall: Mason; Whitehouse and Walters; Humpage, Franks and Pritchard; Kelly, Waltho, Fletcher, Welch and Shires.

Nuneaton welcomed Walsall LMS to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

The game was one of the most one-sided ever witnessed at Manor Park and Nuneaton scored almost at will in the first half, with all of the goals being of a rather simple nature. In the first 45 minutes Hanney (5), Orton (2), Pick and Fletcher contributed to the half-time score of 9-0.

In the second half, Nuneaton were content to rest on their laurels, and only two more goals were added to their first half lead. Hanney scored nine minutes after the interval and Astle with 15 minutes to go.

The game was obviously too one-sided to criticise any of the Nuneaton side. With such weak opposition they were allowed to do practically as they liked. This brings Nuneaton's total of goals scored this season to 99, but, until too late, the players apparently did not realise it, although in the later stages of the game they made strenuous efforts to record the 100th goal, but without success.

Hanney scored no less than six of the eleven goals scored, although, on the whole the opportunities presented him were comparatively easy, and the opposition quite easily subdued. It was Nuneaton's easiest victory of the season.

Redditch v Nuneaton Town 29-03-1932

Redditch: Hearne; Winnett and Thomas; Townsend, Jeavons and Phillips; Rankle, Morgan, Jennings, Harper and Leadbeater.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Smith; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Redditch on Tuesday afternoon for a Birmingham Combination match.

The visitors surprised everyone by winning 5-2. It was a fast and keenly-contested game, and the victory went to the better side. Nuneaton's attack was more incisive than that of Redditch, who failed to utilise many scoring chances.

The only change in the Nuneaton side was the inclusion of Smith at left half-back for Brindley, who was injured. The game opened sensationally with Nuneaton taking the lead within the first minute. From the kick-off the Nuneaton forwards obtained possession and a bout of passing resulted in the ball being sent out to Townsend on the wing. The latter cut through in fine style and with a splendid drive beat the Redditch keeper.

Subsequent play was fast and keen and was characterised by end-to-end movements. After 13 minutes Redditch secured the equaliser through Jennings. Nuneaton retaliated, but Redditch stubbornly defended. With ten minutes to go to the interval Hanney gave Nuneaton the lead for the second time.

In the second half, Nuneaton increased their lead through Hanney, Astle and Orton. Morgan replied for the home side.

Birmingham Trams v Nuneaton Town 02-04-1932

Trams: Tyler; Hughes and Humphries; Campbell, Biddle and Webb; Green, Daley, Greathead, Hunt and Long.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Brindley, Bird and Smith; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton journeyed to the King's Heath Stadium to take on Birmingham Trams in a Birmingham Combination fixture.

The game did not lack interest throughout the whole 90 minutes. Both teams displayed enterprise and dash on the

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slippery ground, but Town were more methodical and artistic in their work. The establishment of a commanding interval lead made victory for them a certainty. Brindley returned to the side and Smith occupied Fletcher's position at left-half.

The "Nuns" were favoured with the major share of the opening play, but neither team failed to impress. As the game progressed play improved. Nuneaton showing resourcefulness in attack, forced a corner, from which Bird gave them the lead after 13 minutes, from a brilliant header following Pick's centre.

Trams fought back with equal determination and after 22 minutes Greathead scored the equaliser by heading home from Green's centre. This equality, however, was of short standing, for two minutes later Campbell handled in the home penalty area, and Hanney scored from the kick with a fast drive. Nuneaton's lead was further augmented a minute later when Orton met Pick's centre with his head and directed the ball past Tyler. In a subsequent attack Orton went close with a fast shot which struck the inside of the upright and rebounded into the keeper's hands. Close on time the home side were awarded a penalty for handball by Smith, but Lilley brought off a really magnificent save from Campbell's kick.

The home side started the second half in brighter fashion but were soon held up, and within 10 minutes, Pick increased Nuneaton's first half lead. Orton made it six from Pick's centre and with five minutes to go Hunt scored the final goal of the match for Trams.

A feature of the game was the brilliant display given by Pick, the Nuneaton outside right, besides scoring two of his team's goals, he was directly concerned in the scoring of three others. Nuneaton's strength lay in the full-back line. Both Lee and Brookes were superb defenders and from them Lilley, in goal received the best support.

Nuneaton Town v Bournville Athletic 09-04-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Smith; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Bournville: Styler; Sheppard and Regan; Plant, Lane and Wain; Pittaway, Jackson, Mason, Owen and Best.

Nuneaton played host to Bournville Athletic in a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Nuneaton enjoyed the major part of the game and except for solitary attacks and a short rally towards the close, the visitors were repeatedly called upon to defend. Nuneaton, however, could do everything but score. This fact was plainly established in the second half. Time and time again the "Nuns" swept down the field only to finish weakly in front of goal. When they did get a shot in they found that the Bournville keeper was more than a match for them.

The home team showed better form in the first half when they were set to face the wind than in the second half when playing with it, and, in addition produced three of their four

goals. Nuneaton were also favoured with the greater share of the play in this half, and when Orton headed through from Pick's centre three minutes from the start it was only the expected which happened.

Entirely against the run of play, Bournville accomplished the unexpected, when 25 minutes later Mason scored the equaliser. Nuneaton replied by exerting themselves to the full, but Styler kept his goal intact in surprising fashion, until at the end of forty minutes play he was beaten by a shot from Pick, which gave him no chance whatever. Two minutes later Astle added to Nuneaton's lead.

The second half was a repetition of the first, with Nuneaton overwhelmingly superior, but singularly ineffective and also somewhat unlucky in front of goal. During the first ten minutes after the interval the ball never travelled over the half-way line. Nineteen minutes after the interval Nuneaton added a fourth, scored by Hanney, and although they were repeatedly on the offensive, this proved to be their final goal. The visitors, however, replied with a penalty scored by Owen.

Nuneaton's weak point was the forward line. Hanney was out of luck in his shooting and the support he received from his inside men was certainly not the best. Astle was greatly disappointing. Townsend was probably the most prominent man in the line but he was only moderate. After a good display in the first half Pick was rarely given the opportunity of showing his real worth. The home defence generally played with determination and kept the Bournville attack well in check.

Atherstone Town v Nuneaton Town 11-04-1932

Atherstone: Sutton; Jeffries and Plumb; Lillcrap, Gilbert and Kind; Askew, Roberts, Sharman, Johnson and Danks.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Smith; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to the Sheepy Road home of Atherstone Town for a Birmingham Combination match.

When Nuneaton took the lead eight minutes from the start the excitement which prevailed among their large contingent of supporters was intense. The game had opened at a fast pace, with Atherstone playing with the slight slope in their favour. Both goals were visited before Pick secured on the right wing and beat all opposition to send across a perfectly-judged centre, which Hanney met and converted without Sutton being able to make any effort to save.

The home side were by no means down-hearted at this early reverse and continued to take their share of the play without becoming really dangerous. It was easy to see that both team were imbued with a "do-or-die" spirit, and as the game progressed it became apparent that the ill-feeling which has always existed between these two bitter rivals was again to mar an otherwise interesting and thrilling game.

Early on the game was interrupted frequently by minor occurrences contrary to the rules of the game, and the referee

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was inclined to blow on the slightest provocation. But when “Billy” Bird tripped up Johnson rather badly, though certainly not deliberately, and the referee chose to ignore what was obviously a foul the spectators took this stage of the game at which to put forward their own point of view, and from then on the rival factions were continually harassing each other, happily only by word of mouth.

One cannot adequately describe the excitement which reigned among the home supporters when Atherstone secured the equaliser after 20 minutes, following a foul by Lee on Sharman. The incident occurred just outside the Nuneaton penalty area and Johnson scored with a splendid ground shot. At this stage of the game, Atherstone were having rather the better of matters, but the Nuneaton defence successfully thwarted every other movement of the home forwards until the interval.

On the resumption the play veered round in Nuneaton’s favour, and Atherstone had to fight hard to keep their goal intact. Such a continued barrage as Nuneaton kept up could not fail to produce goals and when Nuneaton again took the lead, 20 minutes after the interval, the expected was accomplished. Pick was again directly responsible for the goal. His well-directed centre was easily converted by Astle.

From then on to the close the struggle continued with even greater effort on the part of both elevens, Nuneaton, on the one hand, exerting every bit of energy to keep their slender lead, and Atherstone on the other hand, fighting their hardest to draw level, while at the same time frustrating their opponents’ attempts to increase their lead. The ball travelled rapidly from end to end and both goals underwent some narrow escapes. The game ended with Nuneaton on the offensive, and the winners of a hard-fought battle.

The defences on both sides were more than a match for their respective forward opposition. Lee and Brookes were a sounder pair of backs than Jeffries and Plumb. The latter pair played a strong game in the first half, but fell away somewhat after the interval. Bird was the outstanding player in the Nuneaton half-back line. Hanney was again closely watched up front.

Birmingham City A v Nuneaton Town 16-04-1932

Birmingham: Mittell; Thornton and Leslie; Harvey, Grice and Randall; Lane, Argue, Callandine, Robinson and Guest.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Irons, Smith and Fletcher; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Leamington to take on league leaders Birmingham City A in a Birmingham Combination fixture. Nuneaton were without captain Billy Bird and George Brindley, out with influenza and an ankle injury respectively.

The game opened with the “Blues” on the attack, with a strong wind in their favour. Grice put Birmingham ahead after just ten minutes and five minutes later Callandine found the net with a fierce drive. Some possible idea of the heavy pressure exerted by the home side can be gleaned

from the fact that Lee, the Nuneaton right full-back, had the misfortune to kick into his own goal two minutes later.

Hard pressed by Callandine, Lee endeavoured to touch back into Lilley’s hands, but he misjudged the ball and flicked it high over the keeper’s head into the goal without Lilley being able to make the least possible attempt to save. Completely overwhelmed, it was not unexpected that the Nuneaton defence should again capitulate and Randle found the net with a long shot after 27 minutes.

With such a commanding lead Birmingham indulged in fancy playing, contenting themselves with keeping Nuneaton penned up in their own half, but without exerting undue pressure. When, however, Nuneaton did manage to break through the forwards were never in a position to take advantage of any momentary lapse on the part of the home defence, and several good opportunities were lost through over-eagerness and poor positional play.

Birmingham more than held their own again during the second half, but without adding to their lead. Nuneaton improved somewhat, but the forwards finished weakly and at no period looked like actually scoring.

The one redeeming feature of Nuneaton’s play was the heroic displays given by Lilley, Lee and Brookes. Although the half-backs exerted every ounce of energy in an attempt to frustrate the goalscoring efforts of the Birmingham forwards, they were distinctly inferior to the opposition. Veteran campaigner Billy Harvey was Birmingham’s best player. His ball control was really wonderful and he dribbled and passed to perfection.

Bromsgrove Rovers v Nuneaton Town 21-04-1932

Bromsgrove: Lydsey; Rees and Jenkins; Moran, Scott and Taylor; Hipkiss, Sutton, Corbett, Hancox and Simmonds.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Smith; Stringer, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton visited Bromsgrove Rovers for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

The opening exchanges yielded some fast and interesting football. The first side to be really dangerous was Bromsgrove, for whom Sutton flashed the ball across the mouth of the net. The Rovers kept up the pressure for a while, but Nuneaton took the lead about 12 minutes from the start. Smith put in a long forward pass, and Hanney, following up had little difficulty in netting, the goalkeeper making a mistake in coming out. About two minutes later Townsend hit the post with a terrific drive, and from the tussle following the rebound, Hanney headed in with the goalkeeper again out of position. Bromsgrove reduced the lead from a corner, about 20 minutes from the start, when Simmonds netted from a rebound after Lilley had cleverly saved a shot.

The Rovers scored again almost immediately afterwards. Lilley, partially stopping a shot by Hancox, for Sutton to shoot home. Bromsgrove scored following a neat movement,



that ended with Hipkiss putting in a fine centre, which was converted by Corbett, who gave Lilley no chance. Even play ensued for a while, with the Nuneaton defence playing well under severe pressure and Bromsgrove playing good football.

There were attacks at both ends on the re-start, and Nuneaton equalised about six minutes after the interval. A shot by Astle was only partly stopped, and the ball twisted back towards the goal, Townsend rushing in and netting. After Moran had hit the woodwork, Townsend put Nuneaton ahead with a superb shot at a fairly difficult angle, ten minutes after the interval, which proved to be the winning goal.

Nuneaton played well after this success and several shots were put in. The Rovers also continued dangerous on a number of occasions, but the Nuneaton defence proved sound. There were, however, several exciting attacks in the latter stages of the game, and just before the close, Sutton missed a chance of equalising, being too slow with his shot. A well-fought and interesting game, in which both sides played creditable football, ended with a 4-3 win for Town.

Leamington Town v Nuneaton Town 23-04-1932

Leamington: C. Taylor; Partridge and Coldicott; Shanks, Knox and Compton; G. Taylor, Lees, J. Taylor, Want and Trew.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Smith; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton visited Leamington Town for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Nuneaton displayed mediocre form and the home side lacked combination and speed. At half-time the teams were on equal terms. Nuneaton however, were the first to score, when Pick centred for Orton to meet the ball and beat the home custodian with a fast shot. With five minutes to go to the interval, Leamington equalised through J. Taylor.

In the second half, Nuneaton showed some improvement in form, and 17 minutes after the interval again took the lead, Townsend cutting through to take a pass from Hanney and scoring with a screw shot. With scarcely a minute to go Hanney made the issue safe with a third goal, which he headed into the net from Pick's centre.

On the day's play Nuneaton deserved their victory. Pick gave a bright display on the extreme right, while Hanney and Townsend harried the none too convincing Leamington defence at every opportunity. The half-backs were a moderate trio. Lee and Brookes again excelled at full-back and Lilley was a sound custodian.

Coldicott was outstanding for Leamington, while Want put in some clever approach work.

It is difficult to see Birmingham A slipping up at this stage and Nuneaton are almost certainly out of the running for the championship. They are practically certain of the honour of being runners-up, being five points ahead of the third team, Redditch, who have one game in hand over Nuneaton.

Halesowen v Nuneaton Town 25-04-1932

Halesowen: Fradgley; Hacket and Armfield; Grazier, Guest and Mobberley; Hedges, Cutler, Plant, Harper and Aston.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Snow; Pick, Brindley, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Halesowen for a Monday night Birmingham Combination fixture.

After being a goal in arrears at the interval, Nuneaton took control of the second half play and finally ran out the victors by four goals to one.

Although beaten so heavily, the home side were not so outplayed as the score suggests. In the first half they more than held their own, but after the interval were handicapped by an injury to Chadwick.

It took Nuneaton some considerable time to get going, though there was little doubt of their superiority throughout the second half. Hanney (2), Astle and Townsend scored in reply to Halesowen's interval lead of one goal scored by Cutler.

Nuneaton Town v Redditch 30-04-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Smith; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Redditch: Hearne; Winnett and Thomas; Townsend, Jeavons and Phillips; Rankle, Morgan, Jennings, Harper and Leadbetter.

Nuneaton welcomed Redditch to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination league match.

Play was exceptionally keen, but Nuneaton were the more convincing side and fully deserved what was a splendid victory. From start to finish, Nuneaton were quicker on the ball, steadier in their finishing, and practically in all departments, superior to their visitors. The score might well have been much heavier in favour of the winners, for Redditch made very few really good attempts to score all through the match and for the most part were wretched in front of goal.

Nuneaton got their inspiration from a goal scored after 13 minutes' play following a solo movement on the part of Townsend, their outside-left. Running through on his own, he beat all opposition to drive the ball past Hearne with such precision as to give the Redditch keeper little or no chance.

This early success was followed two minutes later, by a second goal. This time Orton scored after Hearne had partly effected a clearance. Fast raids by both set of forwards followed, and Nuneaton missed several easy scoring chances. Redditch, on the other hand, had to contend with brilliant defenders in Lee and Brookes, who allowed them no scope in which to gain any decided advantage.

Nuneaton's third goal came after 40 minutes' play, when a series of forward moves culminated in them forcing a corner. Pick took the kick and Bird met the ball with such force as to drive it straight into the net without Hearne making

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



any effort to save. With only two minutes to go before the interval Redditch converged upon the Nuneaton goal in one determined effort, and with defenders and opposition completely mixed up in front of goal Harper touched through to reduce the home side's lead.

The visitors improved somewhat after the interval and the crowd was treated to countless thrills, as time after time the Redditch defenders frustrated every Nuneaton effort to score. Nuneaton, however, made the issue safe with a fourth goal scored after 80 minutes by Hanney with a superb drive.

Honours went to Lee and Brookes, the Nuneaton backs, who covered and tackled splendidly and were difficult to beat. Hanney and Townsend were outstanding among the home forwards. Randle and Harper tried hard for the visitors. Thomas and Winnett were capable defenders, and Hearne gave a clever display in goal. This was Nuneaton's twelfth victory in 13 successive matches.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City A 03-05-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Smith; Irons, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Birmingham: Mittell; Barkas and Shipman; Humpage, Grice and Randall; Lane, Argue, Haywood, Callandine and Harvey.

Town welcomed Birmingham City A to Manor Park for the final of the Leamington Hospital Cup. The visitors included first team captain Ned Barkas, as well as other prominent players.

Nuneaton put up a wonderful fight in a game in which the final result was in doubt up to the last minute, and their opponents must have been amazed at the tenacious manner in which the "Nuns" stuck to their uphill fight.

The visitors' goal, which gave them the interval lead, was scored in such quick time that the ball was kicked off from the centre and was in the back of the net before the spectators even had time to grasp the fact that Nuneaton were a goal in arrears. It was scored straight from the kick-off and it is doubtful if any Nuneaton player touched the ball.

Birmingham cut straight through the home defence, and before the defenders had time to realise their position, the visitors' left-half, Randle, followed up and collected Haywood's pass to beat Lilley with ease.

In the second half Nuneaton faced the wind and found the fast pace set by their opponents during the first half rather too much for them. Birmingham, in this half, did the major share of the attacking, but strangely enough it was Nuneaton who next scored. A breakaway on the left wing saw Orton send across a splendid centre for Irons to beat Mittell with a grand shot taken at a difficult angle.

The visitors immediately replied with a spell of increased pressure and two minutes after Nuneaton's equaliser Callandine scored an easy goal following a scrummage in front of goal. This proved the final goal of the match, for try as they might, Birmingham were unable to pierce Lilley's defence.

Nuneaton Town v Darlaston

07-05-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Fletcher, Bird and Ridgway; Irons, Astle, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Darlaston: Swinnerton; Forrest and Cooper; Walker, Smith and Wilson; Perry, Davies, Chambers, Arblaster and Bailey.

Nuneaton welcomed Darlaston to Manor Park for the final game of the 1931-32 season.

The home side had completely overwhelmed their visitors throughout the first half and for a short period of the second. They had, in fact, established a six goals to two lead. And then they made their mistake. Apparently under the impression that the visitors were a well-beaten side the "Nuns" ceased to play with the determination and confidence that had earned them such a commanding lead. From that moment until the end Darlaston fought back in surprising fashion to run Nuneaton very close for the two points. In the last fifteen minutes of the game they scored three goals, and the match ended with Nuneaton the narrowest of victors, by the odd goal in eleven.

Nuneaton opened the scoring after eight minutes through Astle, following a clever centre from Townsend on the extreme left. Three minutes later Hanney added a second with an unerring drive. The Nuneaton centre-forward increased the lead to three after 15 minutes' play by hooking the ball in following a melee in front of the Darlaston goal.

Darlaston were completely overwhelmed by the "Nuns" at this period of the game and a number of exciting incidents ensued in the visitors' penalty area. A fast Nuneaton attack 28 minutes after the start saw Hanney complete his hat-trick. But with five minutes to go to the interval the visitors replied with a solitary attack from which Perry scored with a cross-shot which completely deceived Lilley.

Town continued to have the best of matters after the break and it was somewhat against the run of play that Darlaston reduced the lead after five minutes, when Davies' shot cannoned off a Nuneaton defender. Nuneaton replied with increased vigour and Orton and Hanney brought the score to 6-2. And then, play changed in rather astonishing fashion. Nuneaton found that instead of being the attackers they were the defenders. Darlaston were not slow in taking advantage of a momentary weakness in the home defence, and reduced Nuneaton's lead after 27 minutes of the second half, when Davies touched the ball into the net from a Chambers' centre.

With 11 minutes to go there was a short scramble for possession outside the Nuneaton goal and Davies snapped up the ball to touch through and further reduce Nuneaton's lead to 6-4. Five minutes from the close, Davies scored the final goal of the match from a clear opening. Just after the final goal, Townsend fouled the Darlaston right-back, Forrest. The latter apparently lost his temper and friction developed between the two. A bout of fisticuffs followed and then both men received their marching orders.

Strangely enough, both centre-forwards scored four goals. Both were the most outstanding players in their respective forward lines. Nuneaton shone at all points throughout the first half, the defence especially so. It is impossible to account for their sudden falling away in the second half.

Birmingham Combination

Final Table 1931-1932

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Birmingham "A"	34	27	3	4	120	41	57
Nuneaton Town	34	26	3	5	137	56	55
Redditch	34	23	2	9	147	65	48
Darlaston	34	19	3	12	105	74	41
Market Harboro' Town	34	18	2	14	96	90	38
Atherstone Town	34	15	6	13	120	79	36
Birmingham Trams	34	17	2	15	73	105	36
Hinckley United	34	15	3	16	81	82	33
Halesowen Town	34	14	5	15	79	102	33
Bromsgrove Rovers	34	14	2	18	87	106	30
Bloxwich Strollers	34	14	2	18	70	113	30
Cannock Town	34	11	6	17	80	94	28
Walsall LMS	34	13	2	19	72	92	28
Evesham Town	34	10	6	18	73	90	26
Leamington Town	34	10	4	20	81	112	24
Gresley Rovers	34	8	8	18	69	101	24
Bournville Athletic	34	9	5	20	59	101	23
Rugby Town	34	8	6	20	51	103	22

Reserves Beat Coton Villa

The football season of 1931-32 was brought to a close in Nuneaton with a match at Manor Park on Saturday last between Nuneaton Town Reserves and Coton Villa, champions respectively of the first and second divisions of the Nuneaton Combination.

It was a very interesting game and resulted in a win for Town by 6-2. Victory went to the better side, but the Reserves did not have matters all their own way, especially in the first half, the Villa proving their mettle on many occasions with some nicely concerted efforts, which caused the winners' defenders no little anxiety.

It was in the second half that Nuneaton proved themselves the better team and on the whole their forwards gave the Villa defenders a warm time. Burditt (4), Hall and Cope got the winners' goals, and F. Patch and J. Patch replied for the losers.

At the conclusion of the game, Mr W. J. Shaw presented the trophies won by the teams as champions of their respective divisions.

Residents Marooned In Their Houses At Attleborough, Mill Walk And Bond Gate

The greatest flood in the history of Nuneaton occurred on Sunday morning when thousands of pounds worth of damage was done to factories, shops and houses in all the principal streets of the Borough. Measurements reveal that it was 12 inches higher than the flood in 1900, it rose in a shorter time and the severity of the current was greater.



Leonard Raven Patrick (24), married, of Ansley Buildings, Chapel End, Nuneaton, was swept away by the current whilst bathing in Weddington Meadows and was drowned. He leaves a widow and three young children.

Unprecedented scenes were witnessed on Sunday morning when distracted shopkeepers were seen breasting the floods in attempts to reach their shop and salvage some of their goods.

The wooden blocks in the Market Place were torn up by the rushing water and in some cases they struck the plate glass windows with such force as to break them.

Residents at Attleborough, Coton Road, Chapel Street, Mill Walk, Church Street, Wheat Street and the centre of the town were marooned all day Sunday and food was passed to them through the windows.

Districts surrounding Nuneaton also suffered from the flood and miles of land were under water, all the chief roads being blocked and telephones and electric light being put out of commission.



Photos courtesy of Nuneaton Memories

Profit on Five Months' Working

Decision Not To Run Reserve Team

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Nuneaton Association Football Club was held at the Manor Park ground on Thursday night of last week when the report of the directors and the balance sheet for the five months ending May 31, 1932, were received.

The balance sheet shows a profit of £55 9s. 7d. and the directors, in their report, said that such profit had only been brought about by strict economy. They thought it very satisfactory when taking into consideration the general trade depression, the playing away from home of three additional League games to home matches, and the broadcasting of the International and English Cup matches on occasion of home league matches, which they estimated with a loss to the Club of £20.

Owing to poor support they had very reluctantly decided

not to run a reserve team next season, and to continue their membership of the Birmingham Combination.

The chairman, Mr W. Deans, who presided in the absence of Mr G. H. Wheway, moved the adoption of the report and balance sheet and added that the profit shown had only been made possible by a donation from the Supporters' Club of £50. It was a very satisfactory state of affairs when they recalled that the balance sheet covered the latter part of the season when "gates" tended to fall away.

Referring to the coming season Mr Deans said that as the team was so successful last year the directors were making but little change in the composition of the team for the coming season. Medhurst, a former centre-half, who last season assisted Market Harborough, had returned and they had secured the signature of Heathcote, a former Hereford Town and Leicester City player...



Nuneaton Town 1931-32

Birmingham Combination. Taken before match v. Gresley Rovers (August 29 1931).

Nuneaton Town 4, Gresley Rovers 0. Attendance: 3,099

Back row: George Paul (trainer), David Leslie (captain), George Brindley, George Lilley, Anker Brookes, Billy Bird, Arthur Lee
Front row: Teddy Pick, Haines, 'Mick' Hanney, Orton, Jack Townsend.



Walsall Phoenix —Extra Preliminary Round

Nuneaton welcomed Walsall Phoenix to Manor Park for an Extra Preliminary Round FA Cup tie.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Walsall Phoenix: Bagnall; Boughey and Preston; Walshe, H. Whitticase and Woodward; Adkins, L. Whitticase, Power, Cook and Davies.

In the first few minutes of the game, the home spectators were treated to several thrilling incidents, when Bagnall, the Walsall keeper, was forced to fling himself across the goalmouth to effect clearance after clearance.

Bird went close when he struck the crossbar from 35 yards, and went on to hit the crossbar five times and the post twice, before eventually scoring later in the game.

Haines opened the scoring for Nuneaton after ten minutes, and then came the deluge. Six minutes later Orton shot high into the corner of the net, as Bagnall, who had been in collision with Hanney, made no effort to save. A forward pass by Leslie to Hanney was converted and the centre-forward again beat Bagnall, before the keeper was forced to retire, feeling the effects of his collision.

Boughey took over in goal for Walsall, before on 30 minutes Hanney completed his hat-trick and just before half-time added his fourth and Nuneaton's eighth.

On the resumption Hanney missed an open goal. The visitors, still playing with ten men, were no match for their heavier opponents and ten minutes after the interval Orton put Nuneaton still further ahead.

Townsend added Nuneaton's tenth goal, and Orton completed the hat-trick after 20 minutes of the second half. During the next 25 minutes, Hanney, Townsend and Haines each contributed towards Nuneaton's galaxy

of goals and when the final whistle was sounded Nuneaton were 15-0 winners.

Davies and L. Whitticase were the pick of the Walsall forward line, which lacked confidence in attack and which rarely got going. The "Nuns" were much too strong for them.

The Town defenders were not taxed to any degree and in consequence were able to give full support to a forward line that, as the score suggests, did not fail to take advantage of the slightest opportunity that came to them.

Curiously enough Town's previous highest score was against the same team two years ago, also in an English Cup fixture, the score being 13-2.

Worcester City – Preliminary Round

Nuneaton welcomed Worcester City to Manor Park for a Preliminary Round FA Cup tie.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Worcester: Williams; Whale and Isherwood; Stanley, Higham and Garratt; Guest, Kerr, Chambers, Coleman and Gibbs.

Worcester had the majority of the play in the first-half and were the first to get the ball in the net, but the referee disallowed the goal because the Worcester centre-forward was impeding the Nuneaton keeper, Lilley.

The home goal was continually under fire, but the Worcester forwards were erratic in their shooting and failed to finish off skilful midfield efforts.

Nuneaton took the lead following a forward movement which led to Higham, the visiting centre-half, handling in the penalty area. Hanney took the spot kick for Nuneaton and had little difficulty in beating Williams.

The "Nuns" held this lead right up until the interval, despite the fact that they were continually on the defensive.

After the break, play underwent a

drastic change. Instead of defending, Nuneaton commenced on the offensive, and after 12 minutes, Hanney rushed the ball into the Worcester goal following a scramble for possession in the penalty area.

Worcester retaliated and Kerr reduced the visitors' deficit nine minutes later. The ensuing play was marked by continual stoppages for fouls, and players were being attended to for minor injuries, every few minutes.

At one period of the game, Worcester lost Higham, their centre-half, through injury. He was carried off, but returned a few minutes later after being attended to. This unfortunate occurrence only served to make the visitors play wilder still, and the crowd kept up a barrage of jeers and boos against any play whose tactics bordered on anything near questionable.

With seven minutes to go Townsend further increased Nuneaton's lead and in the last minute of the game, Hanney put the issue beyond doubt by scoring his third and his side's fourth goal.

The Nuneaton defence was generally sound and Lilley in goal, showed improved form. Brindley and Bird, the two wing-halves, worked exceptionally hard, but Leslie, at centre-half, has deteriorated in form since last season.

Hanney showed his capability in the forward line by netting three goals and Pick was the only other forward to attain any prominence.

Atherstone Town – First Qualifying Round

Nuneaton welcomed local rivals Atherstone Town to Manor Park for a First Qualifying Round FA Cup tie.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Atherstone: Kester; Wall and Raynes; Lillycrop, Gilbert and Kind; Askew, Day, Sharman, Roberts and Marlow.

Nuneaton were first to attack, and Orton headed goalwards from a free-



kick, which Kester saved. Some good tackling by Leslie and Bird stopped an Atherstone attack before Townsend missed a good opportunity by wildly kicking over the bar.

The same player made amends just after when he netted from a pass from Orton. Kester ran out of his goal, but was easily beaten. At the other end, Sharman and Askew found Lilley safe.

Nuneaton were more convincing in their attack, and swung the ball about well. After the "Nuns" defence had successfully survived a bombardment, their left wing swept down the field and Hanney secured the ball about 20 yards out and sent in a shot which gave Kester no chance.

Kester had to go full-length to save a good shot by Hanney. The Adders were not daunted and they gave the Nuneaton defence plenty of work. Sharman sent just over the bar, whilst Brookes kicked clear from Day.

Pick was responsible for Nuneaton's third goal, for he made a perfect opening for Hanney to tap the ball into the net. Sharman missed a gift goal when he was only three yards off the goal, with only Lilley to beat. Gilbert made amends and scored for Atherstone just before the break.

Atherstone opened the second half on the attack and they were awarded a free-kick just outside the penalty area. Lillycrop took the kick, but he sent over.

Orton put the ball straight across the Atherstone goal, but it was missed by Hanney and Haines. Kester went on his knees to save a hot shot from Hanney, and at the other end Askew sent a nice centre across but Sharman's shot was blocked.

Townsend then sent in a very long shot which just failed. After Roberts had missed for Atherstone, Orton scored for Nuneaton after Townsend had sent across and Pick returned the ball. Just before the end Hanney scored his third goal, and on time added his fourth and Nuneaton's sixth.

Oakengates – Second Qualifying Round

Nuneaton travelled to Oakengates for a Second Qualifying Round FA Cup tie.

Oakengates: Humphries; Hall and Dabbs; Lea, Chambers and Gough; R. Pearce, J. Pearce, Shakeshaft, Driscoll and King.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Defending the slope in the first half, Nuneaton were at once on the offensive and Orton placed well from Pick's centre.

Oakengates retaliated, but the Nuneaton defence held out. Play was keenly contested and at a good pace. Nuneaton went close when Townsend hit the side netting, and again when Dabbs kicked the ball from the toe of Hanney as the centre-forward was about to shoot.

Nuneaton's determination was rewarded when, after 20 minutes play, Orton converted a centre from Pick, who had previously received from Hanney. Three corners for Nuneaton followed in quick succession, and then, Hanney missed an easy scoring opportunity by shooting over the bar, with only Hunphries to beat.

The "Nuns" were more than holding their own, and further increased their lead. Pick was responsible for a grand centre, which Hanney converted. From then up till the interval the visitors were certainly the better team.

In the second half, Nuneaton, with the slope in their favour, were again mainly on the offensive. Chances were missed by both forward lines. Thrills abounded and both goals had narrow escapes.

Unfortunately, at this period, some feeling crept into the game. With fifteen minutes to go, Oakengates reduced the lead when Driscoll touched home from a corner-kick and the game became much more exciting.

Haines shot over the bar for Nuneaton, and King shot wide for Oakengates. A foul on Pick resulted in Nuneaton

being awarded a penalty, but Hanney failed with the spot-kick.

With only seconds to go, Lilley had to concede a corner, and the game ended with an exciting struggle in the Nuneaton area following the corner kick.

Cradley Heath – Third Qualifying Round

Nuneaton travelled to Cradley Heath for a Third Qualifying Round FA Cup tie.

Cradley Heath: Ettington; Wassell and McDermott; Grazier, Johnson and Whitehouse; Hudson, Taylor, J. F. Whitehouse, Pearson and Scott

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

This was indeed the battle of the champions with Nuneaton having won the Birmingham Combination, and Cradley the Birmingham and District League. Cradley, unbeaten so far this season, had the distinct advantage of playing on their own ground.

It was a battle of strength versus artistry, Nuneaton's tricky forwards found the hefty Cradley defence a tower of strength, while Cradley's well-built forwards were outpaced by Nuneaton's backs. The two goalkeepers were the heroes of the game.

It was a fast game and opened with Lee repelling a home attack. Thrill followed thrill as the game proceeded. Lilley had to come out to clear from a Cradley right-wing attack and Ettington, the Cradley keeper had to punch clear from Pick's shot.

Nuneaton at this time were very much the aggressors and a brilliant centre by Townsend was cleared by Ettington. A dangerous shot was cleared by Leslie, while Bird tried to turn the ball into the Cradley net from a corner.

Orton shot just wide before Nuneaton's defence was called into action, having to cope with a free-kick on the edge of the penalty area, which was cleared and Ettington had to save from Hanney.



Nuneaton's best chance to score in the whole 90 minutes came nine minutes before the interval when a home defender handled Townsend's shot. Pick took the spot kick and to the great disappointment of the visiting crowd, shot high over the bar.

Cradley were next to spoil an easy scoring chance when F. Whitehouse, with only Lilley to beat, failed to control the ball, which rolled harmlessly wide of the upright. Pearson shot wide for the home side just before the break.

Play was no less interesting in the second half as both teams attacked in turn and many chances were missed by both sets of forwards.

Cradley had more of the play in this half, but they found Lilley in unbeatable form. Just before the close Hanney shot wide, and an effort by Bird was also unsuccessful. The Nuneaton defence held out under a determined Cradley offensive and the final whistle came with Lee saving a critical situation.

Cradley Heath – Third Qualifying Round Replay

Nuneaton welcomed Cradley Heath to Manor Park for a Third Qualifying Round FA Cup Replay.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Stringer, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Cradley Heath: Ettington; Wassell and McDermott; Grazier, Johnson and F. Whitehouse; Hudson, Taylor, J. F. Whitehouse, Pearson and Scott

The visitors kicked off with the advantage of the wind, and the first exciting incident occurred when Lilley saved at the foot of the post. Within the next minute Cradley were awarded a free-kick just outside the Nuneaton penalty area, which was cleared.

With the visiting defence well up, Townsend went away on his own, but his centre was fielded by Ettington just a second before Hanney could reach it.

The Cradley keeper then had to dive to save from Orton, with a fruitless corner

resulting. Townsend centred, and a scrimmage in the Cradley goalmouth ended in Stringer winning the ball and shooting into the net.

The game was thrilling in the extreme and was contested at a fast pace. In an attempt to save what seemed a certain goal, Lee handled in the Nuneaton penalty area and Scott scored from the spot, with some ease.

During a spell of defending, Nuneaton showed up well with some brilliant clearances from Lee and Brookes. Up to the interval, the visitors were favoured with a little more of the play, but the majority of the shots went wide of the mark.

Two minutes after the interval a Cradley offensive ended in Nuneaton being penalised for an alleged foul by Bird on a visiting forward. Scott took the penalty kick, but shot well wide. Nuneaton's joy was short-lived, as the referee ordered the kick to be re-taken, but Scott's second shot was brilliantly saved by Lilley.

Apart from a terrific shot by Haines that went just wide, Ettington was not seriously tested for some time, but 29 minutes after the break, Bird gave Nuneaton the lead following a free-kick just outside the Cradley box. Brindley took the free-kick and it went to Stringer, who passed on to Bird, who made no mistake and placed the ball into the net with Ettingham unsighted.

Haines put the issue beyond doubt when he converted a Townsend centre, nine minutes before the close.

Burton Town – Fourth Qualifying Round

Nuneaton welcomed Burton Town to Manor Park for a Fourth Qualifying Round FA Cup tie.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Leslie and Brindley; Pick, Haines, Hanney, Orton and Townsend.

Burton Town: Blore; Reid and Whittaker; Wallace, Madison and Lovelock; Reay, Harris, Boswell, Davies and Little.

Nuneaton were never seen at their best during the whole of the 90 minutes. After a gruelling first half fight, during which time they had just as much of the play as their opponents, they failed to stay the pace, and before the final whistle, appeared to be a spent team.

Crossing over without either side having registered any score, it seemed that Nuneaton had only to maintain their first-half form to leave the field the victors. It was not to be, however, and despite having the advantage of the wind, they deteriorated considerably.

Davies' goal for Burton three minutes after the interval, was a great blow to the home side, and one from which they never recovered. It followed a splendidly directed corner from the left, and with Lilley unable to get to the ball, a general mix-up ensued in the goalmouth before the Burton inside-left finally touched the ball in.

The "Nuns" made every effort to equalise, but Burton predominated in defence and just before the finish, when they seemed to have the game well in hand, the visitors sealed the issue with a fine goal scored by Reay.

There was no doubt about it, Burton were too good for Nuneaton. The whole eleven worked harmoniously together and their movements showed understanding and ability, as against Nuneaton's almost frenzied attempts to score. As far as Nuneaton were concerned, ball control was at a discount.

Nuneaton's poor positional play contributed in a large measure to their defeat. Bird, in particular, did not keep too careful a watch on the Burton wing-half, and consequently extra work fell on the shoulders of the full-backs.

Leslie failed to impress against his former team. Brindley gave a sound display and the two Nuneaton full backs showed up well against formidable opposition. Lilley, in the Nuneaton goal gave another brilliant exhibition.



Birmingham Combination: Fixtures, Results & Scorers- 1931-32

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers
08.29	Gresley Rovers	Home	League	4-0	Haines, Hanney, Orton, Pick
08.31	Hinckley United	Home	NCC Final	2-1	Astle, Brindley
05.09	Walsall Phoenix	Home	EC EP	15-0	Hanney (5), Haines (4), Orton (3), Townsend (2), Bird
07.09	Leamington Town	Home	NHC S-F	6-0	Hanney (3), Orton (2), Townsend
12.09	Bloxwich Strollers	Away	League	3-2	Hanney (3)
19.09	Worcester City	Home	FAC Preliminary	4-1	Hanney (3), Townsend
26.09	Rugby Town	Home	League	6-1	Hanney (3), Pick (3)
03.10	Atherstone Town	Home	FAC 1Q	6-1	Hanney (4), Townsend, Orton
10.10	Evesham Town	Home	League	1-2	Haines
17.10	Oakengates	Away	FAC 2Q	2-1	Hanney, Orton
24.10	Market Harborough	Home	League	6-0	Orton (3), Hanney (2), Leslie
31.10	Cradley Heath	Away	FAC 3Q	0-0	
05.11	Cradley Heath	Home	FAC 3Q replay	3-1	Haines, Bird, Stringer
07.11	Leamington Town	Away	BSC2	7-3	Hanney (4), Orton (2), Haines
14.11	Burton Town	Home	FAC 4Q	0-2	
21.11	Birmingham Trams	Home	League	7-2	Hanney (3), Haines (2), Pick, Own Goal
28.11	Bournville Athletic	Away	League	3-2	Haines, Townsend, Astle
05.12	Redditch	Away	BSC3	1-5	Brindley
12.12	Walsall LMS	Away	League	3-1	Hanney, Bird, Astle
25.12	Hinckley United	Away	League	0-2	
26.12	Hinckley United	Home	League	2-0	Hanney, Haines
28.12	Birmingham City A	Home	League	2-2	Hanney, Brindley
02.01	Cannock Town	Away	League	2-1	Hanney, Orton
09.01	Cannock Town	Home	League	9-0	Hanney (3), Orton (2), Pick, Townsend, Brindley, Own Goal
16.01	Gresley Rovers	Away	League	4-0	Astle (2), Hanney, Orton
23.01	Bloxwich Strollers	Home	League	8-1	Hanney (3), Astle (2), Orton (2), Townsend
30.01	Bromsgrove Rovers	Home	League	7-0	Hanney (2), Astle (2), Pick (2), Orton
06.02	Rugby Town	Away	League	3-3	Orton (2), Hanney
13.02	Leamington Town	Home	League	6-3	Orton (2), Astle (2), Hanney, Townsend
20.02	Evesham Town	Away	League	4-4	Hanney (3), Astle
27.02	Darlaston	Away	League	2-4	Hanney, Pick
05.03	Market Harborough	Away	League	0-1	
12.03	Atherstone Town	Home	League	2-1	Townsend (2)
19.03	Aston Villa A	Home	LHC S-F	4-3	Hanney (2), Pick, Burditt
26.03	Halesowen	Home	League	4-1	Townsend (2), Hanney, Brindley
28.03	Walsall LMS	Home	League	11-0	Hanney (6), Orton (2), Pick, Astle, Fletcher
29.03	Redditch	Away	League	5-2	Hanney (2), Astle, Orton, Townsend
02.04	Birmingham Trams	Away	League	6-3	Orton (2), Pick (2), Hanney, Bird
09.04	Bournville Athletic	Home	League	4-2	Hanney, Astle, Orton, Pick
11.04	Atherstone Town	Away	League	2-1	Hanney, Astle
16.04	Birmingham City A	Away	League	0-4	
21.04	Bromsgrove Rovers	Away	League	4-3	Hanney (2), Townsend (2)
23.04	Leamington Town	Away	League	3-1	Hanney, Orton, Townsend
25.04	Halesowen	Away	League	4-1	Hanney (2), Astle, A N Other
30.04	Redditch	Home	League	4-1	Hanney, Orton, Townsend, Bird
03.05	Birmingham City A	Home	LHC Final	1-2	Irons
07.05	Darlaston	Home	League	6-5	Hanney (4), Orton, Astle

Legend: NCC – Nuneaton Charity Cup; BSC – Birmingham Senior Cup; LHC – Leamington Hospital Cup



1932-33

New Centre-Half For Nuneaton

The directors of Nuneaton AFC have signed on a new centre-half in Edward Rooke, late of West Bromwich Albion. He is 27 years of age, is 5ft. 10in. in height and weighs 11st. 10lbs. This completes the Town's team-building for the coming season.

First Trial Match

Eight goals in broiling sunshine bear testimony to the energy which the players infused into the first of the two public trial games to be played at Manor Park before the opening Birmingham Combination fixture against Redditch on August 27.

The crowd was somewhat disappointed at the non-appearance of Heathcock, who was playing cricket, and chief interest centred on Rooke, the Town's latest capture, who has seen service with West Bromwich Albion, and who occupied the centre half-back position in the "Blue and Whites" eleven, composed of nine of last year's first team players. The eleventh man was Medhurst, who has returned to the club after a season with Market Harborough.

The "Red and Whites" eleven were mostly juniors from local clubs anxious for a trial and determined to do the best they possibly could. But they proved no match for their more experienced opponents and were defeated easily by eight goals to nil. The score is indicative of the superiority of the first team, but the game, despite that and the heat, was not without interest and thrills and the play on the whole was such as satisfied the onlookers.

In the first half the "Blue and Whites" were soon ahead with a clever goal by Hanney, scored from a penalty. Bird added a second with a shot which left Bradley helpless to save. Hanney added a third from a centre by Pick and a fourth was scored by Bird after he had received a pass from Pick.

The best football was witnessed during this half. Medhurst was, perhaps, the most outstanding player on the field. He tackled with a surety which belied his seeming slowness and he plied his forwards with accurate passes. Bradley, the "Red and Whites" goalkeeper, and a local policeman, kept a brilliant goal despite the four scored against him.

On the resumption the two goalkeeper were changed. Grice took Pearson's place on the extreme left of the "Red and White" forward line and J. H. Smith occupied the left half-back position instead of Roseby. The senior side, however, continued to more than hold their own and added a further four goals to their interval lead. Hanney, Astle, Pick and Townsend (direct from a corner) were the scorers.

Rooke, who is practically assured of his place at centre-half, satisfied the spectators with his ability to lead the defence. He has the experience so necessary in the making of a successful

pivot and should prove an asset to the Town club. All last season's players gave satisfactory displays. In the reserve side Wombwell, Newey, Jones and Roseby gave useful exhibitions and will, no doubt, be awarded a further trial.

As a result of the game, little difficulty should be experienced in selecting a team that will at least render good service in the opening stages of the season.

Blue and Whites: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Astle and Townsend.

Red and Whites: Bradley; Jones and Black; Price, Smith and Roseby; Newey, Hewitt, Wombwell, Grey and Pearson.

Second Trial Match

Nuneaton's second public trial game on the Manor Park ground on Saturday, resulted in a win for the Blue and Whites (the probable first team) against the Red and Whites, by five goals to one, but did not reveal any individual brilliance of any particular player on either side.

It is rather obvious as to which of the players will take the field in Nuneaton's opening Birmingham Combination match of the season on Saturday next and for such reason there was a lack of the usual keen interest displayed by Nuneaton "soccer" fans.

Heathcock, the former Leicester City forward, who turned out on Saturday for the first time, was the centre of interest. Naturally he was out to make the best impression he could on the local supporters and in this respect he succeeded. From the start he displayed great energy and resourcefulness and although this was his first game in combination with players who will be his fellow forwards he adopted himself in perfect co-ordination with their style of play. He should prove a great asset to the club, for he will strengthen a position which caused some difficulty last season and which was the weakest feature of Nuneaton's forward line.

Rooke, the Town's latest capture, satisfied the spectators with his display at centre-half for he proved himself a capable pivot and one who is possessed of distinct attacking ability without in any way being inferior in defence. As a player of experience he too should prove a valuable addition to Nuneaton's ranks.

Medhurst, who, after a season with Market Harborough, has returned the "Nuns" and appeared at right-half, but was not too happy in this position on Saturday. He found the opposing left wing pair more than he could comfortably deal with. His forward passing was without reproach, but he was generally too slow to frustrate the movements of his opponents on the left wing.

The remaining eight of the Blue and Whites were all members of Nuneaton's team last year and without doubt will occupy similar positions on Saturday as they did then. Lilley will certainly remain the "Nuns" custodian, with Lee and Brookes definitely right and left back respectively.



Nuneaton Town v Redditch 27-08-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Heathcock and Townsend.

Redditch: Styler; Winnett and Thomas; Townsend, Jeavons and Phillips; Rankle, Morgan, Jennings, Kennett and Leadbetter.

Nuneaton welcomed Redditch to Manor Park for the first Birmingham Combination game of the 1932-33 season. There was a gate of over 3,000.

It was somewhat against the run of play that Nuneaton should be the team to notch the first goal. Credit for which fell to Heathcock. He showed himself to be an opportunist when he snapped up a pass from the right, following a front-of-goal melee, and put his side into the lead.

Nuneaton's triumph was short-lived, for immediately on the restart the visitors swept down the field in one concerted attack, forced a corner, and from the resultant kick converted the equalising goal. Up to the interval, and after, there was little to choose between the two teams, until Nuneaton were awarded a penalty for handball. From this moment, 13 minutes after the interval, the visitors were never the same team. Hanney took the spot kick, but his feeble effort to convert was easily thwarted by Styler, who merely trapped the ball. The referee ordered the kick to be retaken as the keeper had moved, and Hanney made no mistake the second time.

Inspired to renewed efforts, Nuneaton began a constant siege of the visitors' goal and time and time again the Redditch goal had narrow escapes. For their part the visitors never recovered from this set-back and up to the final whistle were more or less outplayed by Nuneaton, who before the final whistle added a further goal through Hanney.

On this showing, Nuneaton will have to improve if they area to maintain their high reputation in Birmingham Combination football. Criticism so early in the season is, perhaps, out of order, but in a team comprising no less than eight of last season's players there was a surprising lack of combination. Nuneaton possess two of the most brilliant full-backs in the Combination and to these two, and in equal measure to the goalkeeper, Nuneaton owed their supremacy.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 29-08-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Heathcock and Newey.

Hinckley: Taylor; Campden and Simmons; Irons, Knox and Lines; Pyle, Ball, Young, Eastwood and Ison.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park on Monday night, for the final of the Nuneaton Charity Cup. There was a crowd of at least 2,000.

In the opening period honours in a fast and thrilling encounter were even until after ten minutes' play when Hanney gave Nuneaton the lead. But the home side flattered to deceive for within three minutes, Hinckley had equalised

through Ison, who beat Lilley after Ball had struck the upright and the ball rebounded. From this moment on Hinckley forced the pace and showing excellent combination were able to take the lead after 20 minutes' play. Ball was the scorer this time. Three minutes later Eastwood took the score to 3-1 and Young added a fourth after 35 minutes.

With such a commanding lead against them it was really surprising that Nuneaton entered the second half with such determination. They took complete possession of the game and within ten minutes of the restart, they reduced Hinckley's lead when Hanney scored from Pick's cross. Bird boosted the home side's hopes with a third goal, headed into the net from Pick's corner. Hinckley rallied in the latter stages of the game and fought hard to maintain their one goal lead.

Nuneaton were not to be denied, however, and amid the tensest excitement, drew level in the last minute of the game. Again Pick was indirectly responsible for the all-important goal, for it was his opening which allowed Hanney to touch the ball into the net for the equaliser.

Market Harborough v Nuneaton Town 03-09-1932

Market Harborough: Edmunds; Smith and Hebbes; Reynolds, Turner and Panter; Reeves, Raynor, G. Varnham, Young and P. Varnham.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Heathcock and Pearson.

Nuneaton travelled to Market Harborough for a Birmingham Combination fixture. Both teams were unbeaten in their opening games. Townsend was absent due to suspension.

The strong wind proved troublesome and the football did not reach a very high standard. Nuneaton were handicapped throughout the first half by the breeze but they were able to repel the advances of the home side by employing strong defensive tactics and were enabled to do their share of the attacking. Their superiority in attack earned them a one-goal lead at the interval, Bird scoring after 27 minutes. As Edmunds ran out to clear the ball, Bird raced in, tackled the keeper and secured possession. He had only to touch into an empty net.

During the second half, both teams fought hard, but it was Nuneaton who proved masters of the occasion and went further ahead when Hanney converted a pass from Bird. Lilley gave a brilliant exhibition in the Nuneaton goal and distinguished himself time and time again with clever handling. Brookes and Lee supported him in their usual masterly style. Rooke gave an improved display at centre-half and appeared to have settled down in that position. Brindley was easily the best half-back on the field. Medhurst gave a moderate display against his old team.

Hanney was never given the opportunity to become dangerous, with the exception, of course, on the occasion when he scored. But while they kept a careful watch on the Nuneaton centre-forward, the Harborough defenders allowed the inside men to have matters practically on their own. Both Bird and Heathcock showed up to better advantage than

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in previous matches. Pick combined with Bird to make an effective right wing, but Pearson, on the extreme left, lacked experience and on the whole gave a very poor showing indeed.

Nuneaton Town v WBA A 10-09-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Astle, Hanney, Heathcock and Smith.

West Brom: Adams; Quantick and Swindon; Lambeth, Partridge and Horrocks; Postin, Sankey, Handley, Fox and Titley.

Town welcomed West Bromwich Albion A to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Hospital Cup. The crowd was 2,500.

Town put up their best display of the season against a well-balanced team whose general tactics enabled them to meet home raids with skill and surety. In particular their marking was definitely better, and one result of it was that the home players' passes failed to reach their destinations.

In the speed of their tackling and the pace at which they got off the mark the visitors held an advantage over the "Nuns" and in the circumstances it was not surprising that the home attack failed to move with any smoothness or speed. A splendid display was given by Lee and Brookes, particularly the latter. Time and again the stout-hearted full-back nipped in and pulled up the opposing forwards when they were in full sail. His clearances were well placed.

The most spectacular period of the game was that extending over five minutes prior to the interval. The visitors were commanding a lead of three goals to one at the time when a torrential downpour of hail and sleet sent the spectators scurrying for shelter under the large stand. Play continued with Nuneaton on the offensive and a well-combined movement between Astle, Pick and Hanney culminated in the latter scoring with a splendid drive high into the corner.

Straight from the kick-off Nuneaton swept down the field and with the goalkeeper out of position, Pick shot for the ball to strike the upright and rebound into the net amid the wildest excitement on the part of the spectators.

The visitors took up the offensive on the resumption and after 11 minutes of the second half, they were again a goal in front when Sankey scored with a fast ground shot. Nuneaton rallied and continued to hold their own for the remaining part of the second half until, with only five minutes to go, Fox put the issue beyond doubt.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 12-09-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Johnson, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Smith and Townsend.

Hinckley: Taylor; Campden and Wilmott; Irons, Knox and Lines; Stringer, Ball, Young, Eastwood and Cox.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for the replay of the Nuneaton Charity Cup final.

Nuneaton took control of the game at the start and it was inevitable that after a series of attacking movements they

should register the first goal after 11 minutes, when Pick, Hanney and Bird combined in a move which culminated in the latter beating Taylor as the keeper ran out to intercept the ball.

Although this was the only goal which Nuneaton scored throughout the duration of the first half, they completely subdued the visitors and for lengthy spells at a time overwhelmed them and kept them penned in their own penalty area, but without scoring.

Nuneaton maintained their first half superiority on the resumption and after 13 minutes added to their lead when Hanney headed into the net from a centre from Townsend. Immediately afterward the Nuneaton forwards swept down the field in one determined assault on the Hinckley goal. Shots were rained in upon Taylor and after the ball had struck the upright and crossbar no less than three times, Bird scored with a ground shot.

The solitary raids which Hinckley were able to make rarely reached the Nuneaton end of the field for the defence proved far too strong for the opposition forwards. With Hinckley completely on the defensive Town secured their fourth and final goal through Smith, who had twice previously struck the upright. There were still at least ten minutes to go but Nuneaton seemed content to pen their opponents in their own half without exerting any severe pressure.

This was by far Nuneaton's best display of the season and a notable feature was the improved display of the middle trio. Johnson served to strengthen the half-back line and together with Rooke and Brindley kept the Hinckley forwards in complete submission. Lee and Brookes were again sound. Arthur Smith showed up well at inside-left.

Nuneaton Town v Cannock Town 24-09-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Johnson, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Cannock: Painter; Parkes and Talbot; Jones, Lyons and Allen; Thomas, Shelton, Raynes, Liding and Brookes.

Nuneaton welcomed Cannock Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game.

The game opened quietly and there was little to incite interest in the early play. Cannock gave early intentions of questionable play, when Pick was knocked flat on his back in collision with the burly Cannock left-back. Pick had to leave the field for 10 minutes. Despite this reverse, Nuneaton set up a fierce attack on the visitors' goal and were unlucky when a centre from Townsend glanced along the crossbar before coming back into play.

Hanney was brought down in the ensuing play, but the incident passed unnoticed by the referee. This roused the ire of the home spectators and while the ball was being retrieved after Johnson had shot wide, referee Collins went over to the rails and spoke to several of the spectators.

Such questionable tactics as the visitors employed were

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bound to lead to their own defeat and this was proved when Hanney was brought down in the vicinity of the Cannock penalty area and a free-kick was awarded. Hanney took the spot-kick and with a perfectly judged ground shot gave Nuneaton the lead after 26 minutes. Within the next two minutes Nuneaton had increased their lead. Taking the ball on the run Townsend centred brilliantly for Hanney to convert his second goal.

The excitement increased when the visitors retaliated and Raynes went through the home defence to score for Cannock. In the next minute Wilding missed a good scoring opportunity when, with only Lilley to beat, he shot straight into the keeper's hands. Close on the interval Bird headed against the upright and a fierce scrimmage ensued on the Cannock goal line. Painter appeared to bring the ball from over the line, but the appeal of the home team was disallowed by the referee. This decision caused further barracking from the crowd.

Throughout the second half, Nuneaton were by far the superior team and at times overran their opponents to such an extent as to pen them in their own half for lengthy periods at a time. The play of either side, however, failed to reach a high standard and was subject to frequent interruptions, due to infringements in which not a few of the players received injuries. Nuneaton's third and final goal was again directly due to an infringement when Hanney was unfairly charged just outside the Cannock goal. The Nuneaton centre-forward again took the spot kick and completed his hat-trick with a perfectly timed shot. Nuneaton forced matters in the closing stages without further success.

Birmingham Trams v Nuneaton Town 01-10-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Newey, Hanney, Heathcock and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to the King's Heath Stadium to face Birmingham Trams.

The home side took a shock lead in the opening minutes of the game, after which Trams were totally overwhelmed and for practically the whole of the game it was only a question of how many goals Nuneaton would score in reply. The few Nuneaton supporters who made the journey were disappointed when Hanney scored from Pick's centre, only for the goal to be disallowed, as the referee ruled that the ball was out of play before it was centred.

Their annoyance was tempered when Newey, Pick and Hanney combined in a movement which culminated in the latter equalising after he went on a long run with the ball and drew Taylor out of his goal before netting. Nuneaton completely dominated play and took the lead in the next few minutes when Townsend centred for Tyler to punch the ball to the feet of Newey who drove the ball into the net with a powerful first-time effort.

The same player had a shot punched onto the bar and with

Nuneaton continually in the Trams' goal area it was inevitable that further goals should accrue. Heathcock added a third after 34 minutes, Townsend a fourth five minutes later and Hanney a fifth three minutes before the interval.

Nuneaton were inclined to take matters easy when the game was resumed after the interval and only two goals were added to their first-half lead, although they maintained the offensive throughout the whole of the second half. This perceptible slacking off gave the Trams several chances which were nullified by poor finishing.

Town scored after 55 minutes through Townsend, who made a brilliant run through the opposition to beat Tyler with ease and again after 75 minutes when Heathcock, trapping a high pass, shot with a first-time effort that hit the side of the upright and bounced into the net.

Overall, the "Nuns" never had to exert themselves and the game was little more than a practice match, in which for the most part they were allowed to do almost as they pleased. Their opponents fought hard against impossible odds, but with the exception of the opening few minutes, were never a match for the visitors, who gave the Trams' defence a gruelling time.

Gresley Rovers v Nuneaton Town 08-10-1932

Gresley: Collins; Wheeldon and Wilbourne; McIlwich, Notley and Lovelock; Wakelin, Harris, Castle, Dennis and Clarke.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Johnson, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Heathcock, Hanney, Smith and Townsend.

Nuneaton journeyed to The Moat Ground to take on Gresley Rovers in a Birmingham Combination game.

Although Rovers impressed in the first-half, when they revealed more method than the "Nuns" they failed to press home this advantage, except on one occasion, because the forwards showed an amazing weakness in front of goal. There was much to admire about the home eleven's constructive tactics, but their forwards were woefully weak in finishing.

Town owed much to their defence in the first half when Gresley were continually on the offensive. Lilley excelled in goal and many of the clearances he brought off were not far short of spectacular. The home side were distinctly unlucky when shortly after the start Dennis struck the underside of the crossbar and the ball bounced back into play. Rovers, however, missed several easy scoring chances through erratic shooting, but Castle made no mistake with a header some ten minutes from the start, by which he gave his side a 1-0 interval lead.

When Nuneaton resumed, they reshuffled with Brindley going inside-right, Heathcock inside-left and Smith to left-half. This brought about a change in the game and Nuneaton took up the running, equalising after 13 minutes of the second half through Brindley, whose shot hit the underside of the crossbar before going into the net. Smith, Hanney and Heathcock also took part in the move, which culminated in a splendid goal.



Nuneaton were now on top of their form and before the opposition could recover, the visitors were pressing repeatedly with a determination that was rewarded when Brindley gave his side the lead seven minutes later with an impressive drive. Had Town maintained the energy displayed in taking the lead, they may have won, but Harris was able to equalise by converting a neat pass from the right.

Brindley was the outstanding player on the Nuneaton side, and his team owed much to his dash and enterprise while he occupied a forward position. The Nuneaton front line was admirably led by Hanney, but in the main the support he received from his fellow forwards was not of the best. Rooke excelled at centre half and both Brindley and Johnson played sound games at half-back.

Halesowen v Nuneaton Town 15-10-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Rooke and Smith; Pick, Brindley, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to face Halesowen in a Birmingham Combination fixture. Nuneaton were undefeated in their first six games and had accrued eleven points.

Their victory at Halesowen had to be fought hard for and it was only after a great struggle that they succeeded in capturing both the points by the odd goal in five. In fact, it would be correct to say that it was their most difficult game of the season.

Halesowen, who the week before visited and defeated Bournville, were a well balanced side and at times the speed of their forwards severely tested the visiting defence and it was perhaps lucky for Nuneaton that Rooke and his fellow defenders were on such good behaviour.

Lilley gave a polished display in goal for Nuneaton. On several occasions he was severely tested, but he displayed a coolness and ability which earned him considerable praise. Brookes gave another very sound display at left full-back, and Rooke and Bird performed well in the middle line. Townsend was the pick of the forwards although Hanney led the line very well.

It was in defence where Nuneaton held the advantage; in the forward line the teams appeared to be evenly matched, although Halesowen did not possess such a forceful raider as Townsend. Before the interval Halesowen were slightly the better side, there was no doubt of that, but the visitors gave a greatly improved display after the change of ends and thoroughly deserved both points. Apart from scoring three goals, Nuneaton players hit the woodwork of the home goal on two occasions.

The only goal of the first half came after 34 minutes' play, a centre by Hill being headed into the net by Coldicott. Nuneaton got on level terms five minutes after the interval, Newey being the marksman. Five minutes later Hanney sent the visitors ahead only for H. Hackett to level the scores later on. Hanney got the winning goal seven minutes before the close.

Hunger Marchers Pass Through Nuneaton A Night in Atherstone Workhouse

About 250 hunger marchers arrived in Nuneaton on Wednesday afternoon on their journey from Glasgow to London. They were headed by a band and were in full marching kit, with knapsacks and sticks, and carried banners protesting against the Means Test, which is stated to be the object of the march.

They were given a meal at the P.S.A. Hall provided by the Nuneaton branch of the Unemployed Association, consisting of tea, sandwiches and a pork pie each. During the interval some of the leaders of the march addressed the crowd outside. They then proceeded to Coventry.

They spent Tuesday night in the old Atherstone workhouse which was specially opened for their reception by the Public Assistance Committee who also fed them on a fare of bread, margarine, cheese and tea. Other provisions were bought in the town.

A mass meeting was held in the Atherstone Market Place on Tuesday night.

Darlaston v Nuneaton Town 22-10-1932

Darlaston: Tate; Latham and Partridge; Reece, Smith and Cooper; Perry, Johnson, Davies, Arblaster and Yates.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Darlaston to play a Birmingham Combination fixture.

A brilliant rally in the closing stages gave Nuneaton the verdict in their match at Darlaston. They left the field 3-1 winners and so maintained their unbeaten league run. This was "Nuns" fourth away match in succession and they have won seven out of eight possible points. At present they occupy the second position in the League table with seven matches played and thirteen points registered. At the head of the table are Hinckley United with ten matches played and 14 points to their credit.

Nuneaton fought hard to maintain their record, and although they wavered at a time when scores were level, they subsequently recovered and fully deserved their victory. The visiting forwards, however, failed to take advantage of countless opportunities presented to them in the first half of the game, when, with the slope in their favour, they were continually on the offensive. They started in convincing style by exerting severe pressure and within three minutes were rewarded with a corner from which Townsend sent in a perfect centre for Pick to head the ball into the net.

The Darlaston goal underwent a series of thrilling escapades in the ensuing play. Hanney struck the crossbar with a header and again with a terrific drive which appeared to enter the goal, strike the rigging and then rebound into play.



Bird misjudged a ground pass from Pick when favourably positioned, and when Newey sent in an awkward shot, Tate flung himself across the mouth of the goal to touch the ball round the post for a brilliant save.

Darlaston attacked rarely, when their approach work was good, but they finished weakly. Their determination exceeded their technique, but in a mad scramble for possession in front of Town's goal, Lee charged Arblaster in the back and the referee awarded a penalty. Perry's spot-kick was a weak effort that was saved by Lilley. Newey headed wide from a centre from the right while Bird hit the side netting and then shot wide just after. Newey beat two men, but his weak shot went wide.

Nuneaton were frittering away their scoring chances, and Darlaston made them pay when Yates headed into the net from Perry's centre. Just before the break Johnson had the ball in the net, but was given offside.

After the break Nuneaton were forced back on the defensive and Davies struck the crossbar for the home side and a series of scrimmages placed the Nuneaton goal in danger. Bird was dispossessed by Tate when play transferred to the other end and a shot from Hanney was deflected just wide by Partridge. Tate cleared from Pick's header before Darlaston got back into the game and put in several good efforts, which were dealt with by the Nuneaton defence.

It was in the last ten minutes of the game that Nuneaton asserted their superiority. Townsend took a prominent part in the two goals registered by Nuneaton. He provided the opening for Hanney to shoot and strike the woodwork. The ball rebounded to the feet of Bird, who gave his side the lead with a terrific drive. Within five minutes of the close Townsend again secured the ball on the wing and after a brilliant run centred for Hanney to meet the ball with his head and direct it into the net.

Nuneaton Town v Evesham Town 29-10-1932

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Evesham: Heath; Parry and Spragg; Moore, Bignell and Hughes; Haines, Bowie, Amos, Knight and Bowden.

Nuneaton welcomed Evesham Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game.

Nuneaton started slowly and had to defend with the utmost vigour against repeated Evesham attacks. When the home side hit back, they found that the strong wind carried the ball at a pace much too fast for them to cope with and the pitch was an absolute quagmire, making control of the ball difficult. Town were inclined to lift the ball too high, with the result that passes rarely reached their objective.

Evesham showed sound judgment in the early stages by keeping the ball on the ground, but were unable to finish off some progressive midfield movements. It was inevitable that against such opposition as Nuneaton provided, the latter

aided by the wind and rain, the visitors should be forced into their own half and to had to pack their goal. It was all in accordance with the run of play when Hanney secured the first goal after 30 minutes and the Nuneaton centre-forward increased the lead three minutes later. Three minutes before the interval Pick got Nuneaton's third.

The game had been won and lost. It was suggested that Evesham, with the wind advantage, would wipe off the arrears after the interval. But they never looked capable of it. Nuneaton were a more potent force in the second half than they had been in the first.

Six minutes after the interval Pick increased Nuneaton's lead to four by cutting in from the wing and sending in a powerful shot which Heath failed to deal with. From then until the close, Nuneaton completely overran their opponents and kept them penned in their own half. In the last five minutes Hanney, added a fifth goal with a brilliant long range effort and Pick got the sixth goal, converting a pass from Hanney.

Nuneaton were yards faster in attack than Evesham throughout the game. While Evesham's forwards were considering and hesitating what to do with the ball, they found themselves dispossessed by strong and quick defenders. Nuneaton's forwards, with the exception of Townsend, never wasted any of the opportunities provided them. Quick, sharp passes had the Evesham half-backs beaten, and had it not been for the excellent defensive work of Parry and Spragg the Nuneaton score might have been considerably increased.

Atherstone Town v Nuneaton Town 05-11-1932

Atherstone: Bird; Russell and Armfield; Lillicrop, Gilbert and Kind; Askew, Day, Godderidge, Johnson and Danks.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the short journey to Sheepy Road to take on Atherstone Town in a Birmingham Senior Cup third round tie.

"Adders" started the game in the right manner, and put plenty of spirit into their work. Johnson looked dangerous from the start. Once Atherstone took the lead, "Nuns" fell away badly, and they rarely caused the home defenders any trouble. Nuneaton forwards, particularly in the first half, did not inspire confidence and seldom looked like scoring. Their passing often went astray and the Atherstone backs were allowed to make easy clearances owing to poor passing.

The Atherstone inside-right, Day, started a first-half rout by scoring a fairly simple goal before the game was ten minutes old. He shot well, but his effort was one which Lilley ought to have capably dealt with. The Nuneaton custodian, however, only put out one hand to the ball, fumbled, and allowed it to enter the goal.

An indication of the roughness the game was to assume was apparent when Atherstone were awarded a penalty for an



infringement by Brindley. Johnson took the kick and scored with a great shot which gave Lilley absolutely no chance. Newey was given an opportunity of reducing Atherstone's lead, but although he shot twice, he was unable to get any direction with his shots. After 23 minutes Nuneaton were awarded a penalty for handball and Hanney converted the spot-kick with a brilliant shot. Atherstone effectively replied to this reverse by simply smashing through the visitors' defence and adding to their lead through Day, who converted a centre from Danks.

Thereafter, Atherstone, without being brilliant, played with unbounded confidence and even the stoutest play on the part of the Nuneaton defenders could not prevent them from taking the score up to five goals before the interval with Johnson and Godderidge scoring.

Nuneaton resumed with only ten men, but for a period ran the Atherstone defence to a standstill. Five minutes after the break an Atherstone defender was deemed guilty of handling the ball and from the free-kick, Hanney scored his second goal with a splendid drive. Within the next few minutes Nuneaton were presented with two glorious chances of scoring. On the first occasion Townsend misjudged the ball when favourably positioned and on the second occasion, Pick miskicked with only the goalkeeper to beat.

After 70 minutes play Danks replied for Atherstone and five minutes later Brindley centred from a free-kick for Hanney to guide the ball between the posts with his head. Two minutes later Godderidge scored the final goal of the match from close range after he had received from Johnson. Nuneaton finished the game with only nine men.

Nuneaton's chief weakness lay in their depleted forward line. Hanney was certainly the hardest worked player on the field, and to have obtained his hat-trick under such circumstances as prevailed on Saturday and against such formidable opposition should in itself be sufficient answer to those who are constantly critical of his abilities.

Nuneaton Town v Rugby Town 12-11-1932

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Walker, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Rugby Town: Tucker; Warner and Burrows; Ison, Hickman and Watkins; Dormer, Lee, Trew, Stockley and McGregor.

Nuneaton welcomed Rugby Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game. Nuneaton signed Godderidge, the former Leicester City and Hinckley United goalkeeper, who took Lilley's place in goal. Local youngster Walker, who has recently been playing for Haunchwood Brick and Tile, made his debut at inside-right.

Nuneaton started slowly and the general quality of their combination play was poor throughout the whole of the first half. The home side's first goal came on 24 minutes when Newey converted a centre from Pick. The same player scored again 13 minutes later, with a brilliant ground shot following Medhurst's centre.

After the break, Nuneaton maintained their superiority and Rugby were rarely seen as an attacking force and in consequence Nuneaton were able to concentrate upon forward movements without any great degree of interference. Their forwards shot with greater effect, and in this half, four goals were added to their first half lead. Three minutes after the interval Hanney headed home the third goal from Pick's centre.

Eleven minutes after the break, Ison badly fouled Townsend in the penalty area and Hanney converted the spot-kick. For the next 20 minutes, there was a distinct lack of enthusiasm about the play. Nuneaton asserted themselves again and after 78 minutes, Pick added a fifth goal. The final goal of the match was scored by Newey five minutes from the end.

The game was far too one-sided to prove of real interest, but a victory such as it proved for Nuneaton will do a great deal to increase the confidence of the whole team. Godderidge, who has been signed on as a professional, had little to do, but gave a good account of himself. Walker failed to impress in his first appearance. The return of Billy Bird will greatly increase the effectiveness of the front line.

Atherstone Town v Nuneaton Town 19-11-1932

Atherstone: Bird; Russell and Armfield; Lillicrop, Jefferies and Kind; Askew, Day, Godderidge, Johnson and Danks.

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Sheepy Road to face Atherstone Town in a Birmingham Combination match. The memory of their recent 7-3 mauling in the Birmingham Senior Cup was still fresh in their minds.

The spectators, particularly those who had travelled from Nuneaton, had their full share of thrills, and goals, during the first half. Atherstone gave promise of repeating their performance of a fortnight ago, when Day gave them the lead after seven minutes, but they flattered only to deceive. Within 15 minutes Nuneaton had drawn level after a series of attacks, when Newey snapped up a centre from Pick and turned the ball neatly into the Atherstone goal. After 30 minutes Newey scored again from another centre by Pick to give Nuneaton the lead amidst the wildest excitement.

Atherstone failed to hold together against this reverse and Nuneaton went further ahead when Hanney headed into the net from Bird's centre, ten minutes before the interval. Five minutes later Hanney again beat the Atherstone keeper after Newey had struck the upright. With a minute to go Pick netted with a terrific short range drive which struck the underside of the crossbar before entering the net.

Atherstone were a well-beaten side when they resumed and only a minute had passed before Nuneaton registered their sixth goal, with a shot from Bird. Shortly afterwards, following a Nuneaton attack, the Atherstone keeper lay on the ground with his body smothering the ball. Hanney lay across the keeper and was attempting to force the keeper over the line

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with his knees. As the two players got up, Russell rushed at Hanney and appeared to strike out. The referee immediately intervened and ordered Russell from the pitch. He was joined by Hanney a half-a-minute later.

After 22 minutes of the second half, Bird added Nuneaton's seventh goal following a splendid solo run. Day scored the last goal of the match with 20 minutes to go. Nuneaton eased up and merely contented themselves with holding in check Atherstone's attacks. Towards the end the game became uninteresting and listless and was difficult to follow owing to the fog and the gathering darkness.

Individual praise is due to Brookes, Rooke and Newey. The former played a masterly game at full-back and was a definite factor in the team's success. He was well supported by Lee. Rooke was excellent at centre-half, while Medhurst and Brindley completely nullified the Atherstone wingers. Hanney led the Nuneaton front line with distinction and his determined and forceful efforts kept the Atherstone defence fully occupied.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City A 26-11-1932

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Birmingham A: Clack; Liddle and Bradbury; Firth, Sykes and Wallington; Deakin, Shaw, Shelley, Hill and Guest.

Nuneaton welcomed league champions, Birmingham City A, to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game. The attendance was one of the biggest of the season. The visitors included Liddle and Firth, who both have First Division experience and Central League players Wallington and Guest.

Birmingham opened in promising style by taking the lead after three minutes, but their goal was decidedly lucky, for Hill's shot was deflected into the goal. Godderidge made a gallant, but unavailing attempt to recover his position, and he only missed the ball by inches. Nuneaton were presented with a chance of equalising when Townsend made a good run down the wing, cut across towards goal and with only the keeper to beat, shot high over the bar from close range.

Newey caused some excitement when he met Rooke's forward pass with his head and turned it towards goal for Clack to tip the ball over the bar, and then Townsend forced a corner from which Pick headed through to bring the scores level after 20 minutes. From this point, Nuneaton assumed control of the game and a little more accuracy in shooting from the forwards would have seen an increased score. Townsend missed another easy chance and he followed this by missing again a few moments later. Pick made a brilliant run along the wing to centre for Newey to strike the upright with a terrific drive.

After the break Birmingham set to work with a will. Placing the ball with judgment, they kept Nuneaton on the run, but found Godderidge in his best form. Nuneaton attacked repeatedly, but Townsend was particularly weak in centring and this cost Nuneaton much. He made amends with a perfect centre which was met by Pick, who gave Nuneaton

the lead with an accurate drive 17 minutes after the interval.

Thirteen minutes later Bird centred for Hanney to increase the lead with a well directed shot. Nuneaton continued the more dangerous side up to the close.

At every point, Nuneaton were superior and Birmingham were never really in the picture. Magnificent in defence, Brookes and Lee scarcely put a foot wrong throughout the game in covering Godderidge, who made some brilliant clearances. Newey, Pick and Hanney were outstanding in the forwards, but Townsend again showed a tendency to hang on to the ball too long.

Bournville Athletic v Nuneaton Town 03-12-1932

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to the Model Village to take on Bournville Athletic in a Birmingham Combination game.

Nuneaton showed little promise at the opening of the game and it caused little surprise when Bournville took the lead within three minutes of the start. Brindley had allowed his wing man too much scope and after several lucky escapes, Nuneaton capitulated when Capewell raced away on the right to centre for Austin, who found the net with a high shot, which gave Godderidge little or no chance.

Nuneaton failed to respond to this challenge until 13 minutes before the interval, as Hanney gave the home side real cause for anxiety when he struck the woodwork. Bournville failed to take advantage of many forward movements, although there were a number of thrilling sequences in the Nuneaton goalmouth. It was Newey who scored the equaliser and his cross shot completely beat Bennett. The goalkeeper was only able to help the ball into the net.

Bournville pressed almost continuously up to the interval and with any degree of luck would have scored on more than one occasion. The woodwork was struck several times and once Brookes cleared from off the line, and the panicky Nuneaton defence was hard-pressed to keep their goal intact.

When Nuneaton took the lead 18 minutes after the break, it really seemed they were at last determined to show their ability, but renewed hopes were quickly subdued when Bournville equalised three minutes later. The ensuing play failed to reach any high standard and a further disappointment was forthcoming when Townsend missed a golden opportunity to secure victory for his team late in the game.

Godderidge was the only cool member of a much-harrassed Town defence. Brookes tacked well and his clearances were strong, but he was faulty at times and with Brindley off-form, he was very much overworked to give of his best. Medhurst played too far up field and consequently a larger burden was thrown on to the shoulders of Lee, who got through a tremendous amount of work. Rooke also fell below expectations. Small wonder that the forward play was affected. Ineffective play was the rule rather than the exception on Saturday.



Nuneaton Town v Birmingham Works 10-12-1932

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Dewis, Newey and Townsend.

Birmingham Works League: Cooper; Hubbard and Upton; Reece, Wood and Johnson; Phillips, Smart, Roberts, Love and Reynolds.

Nuneaton welcomed a Birmingham Works League XI to Manor Park for a friendly fixture. There was a meagre crowd.

Nuneaton were the superior team, but except for a period during the latter part of the game, never seemed disposed to exert undue pressure. The home team had more than their fair share of goalscoring opportunities, but were defeated by weak finishing and the ability of the Works' keeper. The game served to emphasise at least one important factor in the composition of Nuneaton's team. Mick Hanney was unable to play, due to suspension. His place was given to a local lad, Dewis.

Nuneaton had a goal disallowed in the first half, when Pick secured possession and took the ball downfield to within a foot of the goal line and screwed it towards goal. The ball twisted in its flight and landed in the far corner of the net. The referee disallowed the goal on the grounds that the ball had gone out of play before Pick shot. It seems unlikely that someone could have scored when the ball was behind the line.

There was no question about Nuneaton's opening goal, scored by Pick after 24 minutes, nor of the visitors' equalising goal, netted by Roberts three minutes later, when he had an open goal to shoot at. Dewis should have give Nuneaton the lead again, when he was presented with a perfect pass by Pick, but he was slow and was robbed of the ball.

The final goal of the match was scored ten minutes after the interval, Smart profiting by a fine opening to beat Godderidge with a well-directed drive. Nuneaton attacked continuously, but they sacrificed effectiveness for artistry and while they completely outclassed their opponents, dilly-dallying with the ball cost them the match. Full time was not played, or they might have turned the tables on their opponents.

Nuneaton Town v Halesowen 17-12-1932

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Bird; Pick, Walker, Brindley, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton welcomed Halesowen to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

For the greater part of the first half, Nuneaton were continually on the offensive, but chance after chance was missed and when the interval arrived they had only a one goal lead, as small proof of their superiority.

The visitors started the second half by taking the game completely under their own control. Within a minute they had equalised following a scramble outside the Nuneaton goal and another minute's play served to see them take the lead. There was a great deal of enthusiasm in the play but little science. Nuneaton dallied with the ball when a quick

movement would have made all the difference, but a series of offensive movements at last resulted in Brindley beating Aston with a brilliant shot just inside the upright.

Halesowen returned to the attack with increased vigour and two minutes sufficed for them to again take the lead when Morris was allowed to run through the defence and beat Godderidge with a good shot. With 13 minutes to go Harper scored again for Halesowen and Aston made the issue safe with a fifth goal. A penalty awarded against Lee for hands was taken by Coldicott, but his shot was saved by Godderidge.

The visitors had reached the Nuneaton goal less than a dozen times in the second half, but five breakaways led to five goals. Even in this half, Nuneaton had done the major share of the attacking, but failed surprisingly before goal.

Pick was the most effective Nuneaton forward, but he scarcely received any support. Newey was only moderate and Brindley, though he bustled into the game, possessed neither the shooting ability nor the science of Hanney. Walker, while he occupied the inside-right and the centre-forward position, was of little use and Townsend was only of value at odd intervals. It was impossible for the defence to hold out against Halesowen under such circumstances.

Nineteen weeks after the first match of the season, Halesowen lowered Nuneaton's colours for the first time in a league match.

Nuneaton Town v Dudley Town 24-12-1932

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Medhurst and Brindley; Pick, Smith, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton welcomed Dudley Town to Manor Park for a Christmas Eve Birmingham Combination game. Hanney was back in the Nuneaton attack after serving a two match suspension. Rooke was absent, suffering with influenza, and Medhurst took his place.

Hanney quickly distinguished himself by giving Nuneaton the lead after ten minutes, when he took a forward pass from Smith, beat a defender and scored with a screw shot. Eight minutes later a pass from Newey gave Pick an opening which the winger took advantage of by adding the second goal.

After half-an-hour Hanney scored the third goal from an opening provided by Smith and three minutes later Brookes went right through the defence to pass to Townsend, who returned the ball across the goalmouth. Pick met the ball almost at the foot of the upright and was just able to turn it inside the post.

Six minutes after the interval Hanney scored his third goal and Nuneaton's fifth from a penalty, awarded against a defender for a foul on Townsend. One minute later Hanney scored the sixth, again a pass from Smith, and within two minutes the final goal of the match was netted by Smith after Hanney had headed against the crossbar.

From this point, Nuneaton fell away and merely contented themselves with holding their goal intact against the

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spasmodic attacks of the Dudley forwards, who throughout the whole of the match rarely troubled Godderidge and certainly gave him no opportunity to exert himself.

Nuneaton played well to a man, with Smith the best schemer on the field. The confidence which Hanney's re-appearance brought to the team was clearly shown. Sabin, Morris and Lane were the most prominent of the visitors.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 26-12-1932

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Smith, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for a Boxing Day Birmingham Combination encounter. There was an attendance of at least 5,000.

In the first few minutes Brookes miskicked and gave Young an opening, which, fortunately for Nuneaton, he failed to take advantage of. Hanney headed a brilliant goal shortly after from a perfect centre by Pick, but the lead was short-lived for Brookes again let in Young, who this time notched the equaliser. Maintaining the pressure, Hinckley delighted their supporters by adding twice to their lead before the interval.

Both goals, however, were deflected by a Nuneaton defender. Smith had been a passenger on the Nuneaton right wing since early on in the game and this made against the effectiveness of the forwards.

With their backs to the wall, Nuneaton made a brilliant recovery in the second half and Hinckley have only their good fortune to thank for leaving the field with a point to their credit. After eight minutes of the second half, Godderidge was injured and forced to retire, with Smith taking over in goal. Hinckley attacked repeatedly, but when the Nuneaton keeper returned, the play was completely reversed and Nuneaton's determination was rewarded 17 minutes after the interval with a second goal, scored by Townsend, who had crossed into the centre, and was able to secure the ball after Buck had miscalculated a shot and allowed it to get past him.

For the remainder of the game, Nuneaton kept up a continuous attack on the Hinckley goal. Hanney brought a gasp of excitement from the crowd when he shot with terrific force, but Buck saved well. Newey then met the ball in mid-air and from close range banged it in towards the goal. Buck happened to be in the direct path of the ball and deflected it over the bar. From the corner kick, Pick all but headed through, but again Buck was in the right place at the right time.

It was impossible for the Hinckley goal to remain intact under such severe pressure. It capitulated six minutes from the close when Pick scored the equalising goal for Nuneaton amid the wildest excitement. Strive as they might, Nuneaton could not pierce the Hinckley goal again.

Every man on the field played his part well. Young, Ison and Ball were prominent in the Hinckley forward line with Knox a brilliant schemer at centre-half. Hanney showed great

resource in Nuneaton's front line, with Pick a danger when in possession. Medhurst held Ison well, but Rooke, at centre-half, dilly-dallied with the ball when a clear, strong kick might have made all the difference. Brindley improved as the game progressed. Both Lee and Brookes made mistakes and Godderidge could scarcely be blamed for any of the goals which found their way into the net.

Hinckley United v Nuneaton Town 27-12-1932

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Sparrow, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to The Holywell to meet Hinckley United in a Birmingham Combination fixture. There was a record league gate for the season.

Nuneaton had the advantage of the slope in the first half and had attacked persistently for some considerable time before Newey opened the score with a header from Pick's corner kick. Throughout the remaining period of the first half the "Nuns" were the superior team but were unable to penetrate the Hinckley defence and retain sufficient advantage to register any further goals this half.

When Newey added to their lead shortly after the interval, Nuneaton seemed assured of victory, but their opponents despite having been held for the greater part of the second half, persevered to such a degree that at last, after a series of dangerous moves, Young beat Godderidge with a shot which the latter took over the line in an endeavour to clear. It was a lucky goal but proved a sufficient incentive to restore some confidence to the home team and for the remainder of the game the Nuneaton goal was in constant danger.

From the point of view of the Nuneaton supporters, interest centred on the first appearance in the "Nuns" ranks of a local youth named Sparrow (Haunchwood Brick and Tile), who deputised for Smith at inside right. Bird was again unable to turn out owing to an attack of influenza. The youth created a favourable impression, but can improve himself if he corrects his tendency to hold the ball for too long. He supported Pick to a far greater extent than had been the case in weeks and as a result the latter was the most dangerous forward in the Nuneaton side.

Knox subdued Hanney and the latter scarcely had an opportunity to shoot throughout the ninety minutes. Newey showed an improvement in form over the previous day, but Townsend was woefully weak, although he had more chances than the remaining forwards put together. Nuneaton possessed only a moderate half-back line. Rooke tackled well but showed little disposition to boot the ball forward. Brindley again allowed the opposing wing man too much scope and while Medhurst played a sound defensive game he found little time to support his forwards. Neither Lee nor Brookes seem to have regained full confidence in themselves and made several blunders, but for the most part they tackled well and kicked strongly. Godderidge was superb.



Wolves A v Nuneaton Town 31-12-1932

Wolves A: Ellis; Bucknell and Downen; Wildsmith, Clark and Davies; Mitcheson, Shelton, Dudley, Clayton and Young.

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Roseby, Medhurst and Paul; Sparrow, Rooke, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Darlaston to take on Wolves A in a Birmingham Combination game. Town were forced to play a weakened team, due to the fact that Bird and Brindley were both ill. Pick failed to turn up and travelling reserve Arthur Smith was injured. Trainer George Paul was called upon, along with local youth Roseby.

Nuneaton found their opponents yards faster. What Nuneaton lacked in speed and science, however, they made up with determination and it is certainly no reflection on them to record the two goals scored against them in the first half. The "Wolves" first goal was rather a lucky one. Godderidge found a terrific drive from Shelton too hard to handle and thus the home side registered their first goal after 20 minutes. Their second goal was scored in the last minute of the first half.

Nuneaton had a good share of the attacking, but without constituting any great danger. Townsend would not lose the ball when a first-time centre would have proved to advantage. Try as he may Hanney was unable to assist for he was too well watched. Sparrow made many good runs and centres, but against the virile Wolves defence all his efforts came to nought.

Kicking down the slope, Town did not fare quite so well as in the first half. Wolves pressed continuously and the Town goal capitulated 15 minutes after the break, when Clayton beat Godderidge. It was twice saved from Clayton, but without being able to hold the ball and it was banged home as Godderidge made a vain attempt to fling himself on the ball.

During this half, Nuneaton rarely looked like scoring, but with ten minutes to go Downen handled in the penalty area and from the spot kick Hanney scored Town's only goal.

George Paul deputised exceedingly well at left-half and was a rare spoiler. Roseby played a hard game and Sparrow was prominent with some perfect centring. Faced against professionals, whose sole occupation is to play football and whose only objective was to put forth their best efforts in order to impress and gain promotion, Nuneaton, the majority of whose eleven were at work up to dinner time on the day of the match, could hardly be expected to bring home the spoils.

Redditch v Nuneaton Town 07-01-1933

Redditch: Styler; Winnett and Thomas; Townsend, Jeavons and Phillips; Andrews, Morgan, Jennings, Harper and Leadbetter.

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Sparrow, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Redditch for a Birmingham Combination game.

There was a certain amount of luck attached to the home

team's first goal – scored after four minutes' play. Leadbetter secured possession and send across a pass. Godderidge met the ball with his foot and in an attempt to clear, kicked it against Jennings. The ball rebounded towards the goal and Andrews, rushing in, was able to score with little difficulty.

A strong movement by the Nuneaton forwards resulted in the equaliser being scored eight minutes later when Sparrow passed across for Newey to seize on the ball and score with a brilliant shot. In the ensuing play the ball travelled quickly from end to end. Fortune favoured Redditch when the second of two quick corners resulted in Jennings heading into the net, and after their goal had a narrow escape from a free-kick, Morgan increased their lead with a third goal, after receiving from Leadbetter.

When Nuneaton resumed after the break, Rooke was playing at inside-right, Sparrow having moved to right-half and Bird to centre-half, but Redditch monopolised play and took advantage of mistakes by the Nuneaton defence and attack. After 24 minutes of the second half, Morgan passed across to the right for Andrews to score the home team's fourth goal and just before the close, Andrews was fouled in the penalty area and the right-half scored from the spot.

Town's championship aspirations received a further setback and they have dropped from second to fourth in the table, six points behind the leaders, but with four games in hand.

Nuneaton Town v Market Harborough 14-01-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Medhurst and Brindley; Pick, Sparrow, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Market Harborough: Edmunds; Smith and Hebbes; Turner, Reynolds and L. Smith; Reeve, Raynor, Goode, G. Varnham and P. Varnham.

Nuneaton welcomed Market Harborough to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Nuneaton opened the scoring after twelve minutes following a free-kick. Edmunds was totally unsuspected. The fast pace found the players wanting in ball control and with the ground very heavy, the passing on both sides was wild. The visitors reached the Nuneaton goal on numerous occasions, but they failed to finish strongly and the only dangerous movement in the first half was Rayner's header, which Godderidge tipped over the bar, and the keeper punched clear from a centre. George Varnham missed in front of goal and Percy Varnham had a clear run, but shot straight into the keeper's hands.

Hanney scored his second goal after 30 minutes play and two minutes later secured his hat-trick with a terrific drive which gave Edmunds no possible chance. Far from going under, Harborough attacked persistently, but without avail against the strong Town defence and at the interval Nuneaton crossed with a four goal lead, when Pick scored three minutes before half-time.

Harborough received a keen disappointment shortly after the break when a goal scored by Percy Varnham was disallowed,



much to the annoyance of the Harborough spectators. Within the next minute, however, the visitors were awarded a penalty and J. Smith scored from the spot after Godderidge had first saved, but allowed the ball to elude his grasp.

Nuneaton, however, continued to maintain their first half superiority and Hanney brought their total of goals to five, 11 minutes after the interval. Sparrow added a sixth after Hanney had struck the upright and in the last 20 minutes, Townsend netted twice to increase the total to eight. Meanwhile, George Varnham scored Harborough's second goal.

Nuneaton's forward superiority was a definite factor in the team's success. With every man pulling his weight the eleven were invincible and try as they might, the Harborough defence was unable to stop them. There was not a weak link in the Nuneaton team.

Nuneaton Town v Wolves A 21-01-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Medhurst and Smith; Pick, Sparrow, Hanney, Newey and F. Payne.

Wolves A: Whittaker; Preece and Downen; Twiss, Woodhall and Davies; Bryan, Clutton, Gardner, Challenger and Clarke.

Nuneaton welcomed Wolves A to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game. The home side were depleted by the loss of Brindley and Townsend, due to illness, but the directors' decision to include ex-director Fred Payne, when better younger players sat in the stand, is a mystery.

Nuneaton gave a good performance with a weakened team and the defence came out of the ordeal with flying colours. It was astonishing that the visitors, attacking repeatedly and for minutes at a time, failed to cause the Nuneaton goal to capitulate. In that respect alone the match will go down as including the finest defensive game played by Nuneaton as yet.

The forward line was totally ineffective against the strong and determined Wanderers' defence. The number of times they reached the visitors' goal area could be counted on the fingers of both hands. And yet they were given the opportunity of scoring on at least two occasions. Had advantage been taken of either, victory would have been assured. The first easy chance occurred some 16 minutes from the start, when Pick was fouled in the Wolves penalty area, as he was cutting in towards goal. The kick was entrusted to Hanney, but for the first time this season the centre-forward missed the goal by at least a yard.

Nuneaton were also unlucky when a cross shot by Newey completely beat the Wolverhampton custodian, but struck the upright and rebounded into his arms. Again, in the last minute of the match, the visitors had a narrow escape when Hanney missed completely from Payne's pass. It was not like Hanney to miss such an easy chance, but he had been off form from the start and was never given the opportunity to get in his stride.

The Wanderers, although they were much the superior team in attack and were able to hold the Nuneaton forwards without

much exertion, never had the chances that Nuneaton had, and Godderidge was able to keep his goal intact. The visitors were brilliant in their approach work and Medhurst and his half-backs were constantly overrun, but in Lee, Brookes and Godderidge, the Wanderers found an insurmountable obstacle to progress. Time and time again one or the other would clear their line when capitulation seemed imminent.

Criticism Over Payne Selection

It is feared that much discontent has arisen among supporters of the Nuneaton Association Football Club over the directors' action in playing Mr Fred Payne, a former manager of the club, who is forty-six years of age and past his prime as a footballer, as a reserve against Wolverhampton Wanderers A at Manor Park on Saturday last, when players of decidedly better ability and less mature age were available.

Without wishing to cast any reflection whatever on the particular player in question – it is well-known that in his time he has rendered invaluable service to the club – one is naturally prompted to ask in view of the dissatisfaction caused, why neither Rooke nor Roseby were played. Both sat throughout the game under the stand. It is understood that Rooke was made to stand down as punishment for disregarding his captain's orders in a previous match, but even then Roseby was available and upon his showing against the Wolves at Darlaston, was more worthy of a place than the player finally selected.

Nuneaton Town v Leamington Town 28-01-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Smith; Sparrow, Bird, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Leamington: Burdett; Compton and Sharpe; Forrest, Cooper and Bond; Shanks, Metherell, Woodward, Morris and Harris.

Nuneaton welcomed Leamington Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination match.

After a disgustingly poor game, Nuneaton Town and Leamington Town drew 2-2. It was one of those games which must have made the spectators wish that they had stayed at home beside the fireside. The encounter was devoid of all those ingredients which make football such an attractive game. There was hardly a good movement by either side throughout the whole 90 minutes, with the passing of both sets of forwards and half-backs being the worst seen at Manor Park for many a long day.

The frost-bound ground, of course, made good football difficult, and the players no doubt experienced difficulty in keeping their feet, yet for all that it was a woefully weak exhibition of football. Nuneaton had the most chances of winning the game, but no one will deny that Leamington were always triers and that on the whole they deserved their point.

The absence of both Brindley and Pick necessitated further

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changes in the home side, and once again the balance of the side was upset. Sparrow went outside-right, Bird moved from right-half to inside-right, Medhurst played right-half to allow the inclusion of Rooke, and Smith was at left-half.

It is believed that Medhurst was unfit to play, and that was probably the reason he changed places with Bird after the interval. The team was all at sixes and sevens, and once again Lee, Brookes and Godderidge were the saviours of their side, although a misunderstanding between Brookes and Godderidge enabled Leamington to equalise three minutes from the end.

The home forwards were poor from start to finish, and Hanney was the only one of the line who ever looked like getting a goal. He scored the first goal three minutes from the kick-off and in the second half had hard luck with a header which struck the upright. Rooke got Nuneaton's other goal with a splendid shot early in the second half. Woodward netted both goals for the visitors.

Cannock Town v Nuneaton Town 04-02-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Rooke and Brindley; Roseby, Wombwell, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Cannock Town for a Birmingham Combination game. The visitors were forced to play an under-strength team due to illness ruling out Medhurst and Pick. Cooper of Griff Colliery took the place of Pick and Birmingham Works League player Wombwell played inside-right with Bird dropping back into Medhurst's place at right half-back.

The opening exchanges were fairly even, but Cannock showed promise when a free-kick was obtained in Nuneaton territory and Godderidge was called upon to save from J. Wilding. Further attacks followed but the Nuneaton defenders held out and when a movement towards the Cannock goal was made, Townsend centred but the ball was cleared. Hanney and Cooper both put in shots, but the Cannock keeper saved well.

The ensuing play slightly favoured the home side, but the play generally was lacking in interest, until Rowe eventually broke through on the right and centred for Brookes to head a fine goal, 35 minutes from the start. A minute later Nuneaton replied with the equaliser through Wombwell, and the "Nuns" continued to attack for the remaining period of the first half.

Cannock took up the running when the game was resumed and after seven minutes obtained the lead for a second time when G. Wilding converted a corner kick from the right. Nuneaton made determined attempts to equalise but they were well held by the strong and robust Cannock defence. Gradually wearing their visitors down the home side increased their lead with 15 minutes to go and added the fourth and final goal of the match three minutes from the close.

Excepting Lee, Brookes and Godderidge, who came out of a

trying ordeal with flying colours, Rooke also played a hard and fast game, but his efforts to open up the game received small reward.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham Trams 11-02-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Rooke, Brindley; Pick, Wombwell, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Bottom of the table Birmingham Trams visited Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

The opening exchanges favoured Nuneaton, but the visitors defended stoutly and showed some neatness when eventually they attacked, only to be met by an unbeatable defence in Lee, Brookes and Godderidge. At this period Nuneaton were playing rather scrappy football and their shooting was extremely erratic. Several easy chances were missed through this, but finally after a series of attacking movements, Hanney found the net after half-an-hour's play, by converting Townsend's centre with his head. A minute or so later Hanney scored again with a fierce ground shot which Tyler found it impossible to deal with.

Crossing over with a two goal lead, Nuneaton maintained the superiority they had shown in the first half and after ten minutes of the second half, an attack on the Trams' goal resulted in one of the defenders handling the ball. A penalty was awarded, but Hanney surprised the home supporters by missing the goal, his second consecutive miss. Nuneaton were not to be denied and less than a minute later they increased their lead to three when Newey touched the ball into an empty net after Tyler had run out to intercept a pass by Townsend.

The visitors were rarely in the Nuneaton half and when they were successful in crossing the half-way line they could pass Lee and Brookes. With 20 minutes to go Hanney left the field with a thigh injury, but Nuneaton continued to attack and with 15 minutes to go, Townsend scored one of the best goals seen at Manor Park for some considerable time. It was a first-time effort as he met a pass from the right and drove it into the corner of the net with terrific force. Three minutes later Pick scored the final goal of the match.

Nuneaton were by far the speedier side and their visitors were thoroughly out-manoeuvred by opponents whose methodical passing movements were constantly dangerous. There were thrills outside the Trams' goal every few minutes, but Tyler came out of a gruelling ordeal with flying colours.

Leamington Town v Nuneaton Town 18-02-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Wombwell, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Windmill Lane, the home of Leamington Town, for a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Nuneaton took the lead early on through Hanney, whose shot from a free-kick on the edge of the area flew straight and true

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into the net. The ball travelled from end to end but with little advantage to either team. There had been some barracking by a section of the spectators which resulted in a youthful spectator being ordered off the field by the referee. When the game was resumed, Leamington pressed and Godderidge saved well from Harris after Woodward had headed over. A further attack caught the Nuneaton defence by surprise and Woodward was able to turn the ball in some 20 minutes from the start, for the equaliser.

The home team attacked more determinedly than ever, after this success and Nuneaton's efforts to repulse their forward movements were far from impressive. There was an exciting scene at the Nuneaton end when Godderidge failed to gather a centre and Woodward was beaten by the pace of the ball in racing to intercept.

Leamington continued the better team and at the end of half-an-hour's play Reading gave them the lead and four minutes later Shanks added a third. The home side were much smarter in their tactics than their opponents and brought all the Nuneaton efforts to nought. Just before half-time play was interrupted by a blinding snowstorm and the referee had occasion to speak to a section of the spectators for their conduct following friction between rival players.

When the game was resumed after half-time, Nuneaton were put further in arrears. Godderidge failed to clear from a home attack and Woodward was able to head into an empty net. Nuneaton improved somewhat, but were unable to shake the home defence, until Bird found the net with a well-directed shot. Nuneaton retired a well-beaten side.

Along with Wolverhampton Wanderers A, the "Magpies" take credit for being one of the two teams to have taken three points off Nuneaton.

Nuneaton Town v Darlaston 04-03-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Newey and Townsend.

Darlaston: Dyke; Whitehouse and Clayton; Latham, Allen and Cooper; Perry, Davies, Fletcher, Welch and Yates.

Nuneaton welcomed Darlaston to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game.

Nuneaton showed little initiative throughout the first half and allowed Darlaston to run them off their feet at times. At the interval the visitors led by two goals to nil and the lead was well deserved. In the first few minutes of the game, Fletcher had only the goalkeeper to beat when he shot tamely into his hands and later a misunderstanding between Lee and Godderidge let in the outside-right, but with the open goal before him, the latter missed the post by at least a foot.

At this point two golden chances were fumbled, but Fletcher made no mistake in converting a centre from the left after Godderidge had dived and missed the ball. Yates, who was playing a brilliant game for the visitors, was responsible for

the next goal which he scored after coming into the centre of the field to meet a pass from the opposite wing.

Darlaston were not the only team to miss chances. Once, after receiving from Hanney, Townsend had a clear opening for goal, but his shot went yards wide. Dyke saved brilliantly from Newey by throwing himself full-length at the ball from an unsighted position. Townsend was responsible for a number of perfect centres, but either one or other of the forwards failed to take advantage of the splendid opportunities provided him.

Nuneaton were seen to better advantage in the second half when Bird reduced the arrears with a clever goal, two minutes after the interval. After being dispossessed Nuneaton's captain secured possession a second time and beat the goalkeeper from short range.

Yates was the greatest menace to the Nuneaton defence, but his goal, scored 13 minutes after the interval, was obviously offside. Godderidge saved his first shot but the outside-left netted from the rebound. Seven minutes later, Hanney added Nuneaton's second goal and with 15 minutes to go Hanney scored again, to bring the scores level. The visitors rallied and during the ensuing play kept the ball in the Nuneaton half until Nuneaton finally broke away and Hanney was back charged inside the penalty area. The spot-kick was missed by Brindley and while commiserating with Nuneaton, one cannot help but feel a little pleasure in seeing valiant Darlaston leave the field with a share of the spoils, after playing such a splendid game.

Evesham Town v Nuneaton Town 11-03-1933

Evesham: Heath; Aston and Spragg; Tolley, Bignell and Grosvenor; Pitman, Gardner, Haines, Shay and Bowden.

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Sparrow and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Evesham Town to play a Birmingham Combination fixture. Newey was absent and his place was taken by Sparrow.

Nuneaton opened promisingly and the half-backs were soon to the fore with some long range shooting. When Evesham replied, Haines, the former Nuneaton inside-right, missed an easy chance, and then Pitman fired into the side netting. Bird was prominent in the next Nuneaton attack, but his header was well saved by Heath, while Townsend provided a thrill by missing the upright by a matter of inches.

Both goals were visited in turn during the ensuing play and there was no lack of thrills. The play was keen and both teams were on their mettle. Evesham added interest to the game when a series of forward movements ended in Pitman and Haines striking the post and bar respectively. The fortunes of the game swung from one side to the other, until after 25 minutes' play Nuneaton took the lead with a splendid goal scored by Pick, after he had received from Hanney. Nuneaton continued to attack, but were unable to



finish properly and Evesham equalised with a counter attack ten minutes' later, when Bignall beat Rooke and netted with ease. Thrill followed thrill as each side put their best into the game, but Nuneaton were most unfortunate when Lee, in an effort to clear from an opposing attack, headed towards goal for Godderidge to put the ball through his own goal. Right on the interval whistle Hanney levelled the scores, heading in a centre from the right.

Nuneaton were seen to better advantage in the second half and after Bird had given them the lead once more five minutes after the interval, they went on to outplay their opponents in every department of the game. Fourteen minutes after the interval Hanney added a fourth goal with a brilliant shot from fifteen yards range. Pinned in their own half the home side could only defend against the repeated onslaughts of the Nuneaton forwards and with the game all in their favour, Nuneaton notched the fifth and final goal of the match when Pick scored following a corner kick.

Hanney was the arch schemer of the Nuneaton forwards with Pick also outstanding on the right wing. Although Lee made one bad mistake, both backs were sound and were easily more efficient than Evesham's rear line. The three halves showed vastly improved form and the credit for their team's victory was due in no small measure to them.

Nuneaton Town v Bromsgrove Rovers 18-03-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Sparrow and Townsend.

Bromsgrove: Hammond; Whitlock and Rees; M. Jones, Scott and Plumb; Hooper, Rose, Bissell, Hancox and Jones.

Bottom of the table Bromsgrove Rovers visited Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game.

Nuneaton defeated Bromsgrove by 3-1, but the football they turned up was not such as reflects any credit on the team as a whole. At the interval they were even one goal down and no spectator could have prophesied their second half revival, for in the first half they appeared to suffer from a pronounced lethargy. This was noticeable in almost every department with the exception of goal and full-back.

True, the forwards were somewhat unlucky in their shooting, numerous likely efforts were nullified by a defender deflecting the ball as it sped towards goal, but throughout the first half the visitors were favoured with an equal share of the play, although they too were woefully weak in front of goal. Neither Godderidge nor Hammond in the Nuneaton and Bromsgrove goals were troubled to any great extent and with the one exception of a goal scored, both held their own.

When the game resumed after the interval, however, a vast change was seen. Nuneaton asserted their superiority, but once again when they had their opponents on the defensive, they were unable to force any advantage and several promising movements were spoiled by poor combination among the forwards. It was inevitable that after such

continued pressure as Nuneaton exerted that the Bromsgrove goal should fall. It did so 16 minutes after the resumption, when an exciting melee in front of the Bromsgrove goal saw Sparrow in possession and touch the ball over the goal-line.

Encouraged by the success, Nuneaton maintained the pressure and were rewarded nine minutes later when Pick centred the ball for Townsend to meet it, and direct the ball high into the corner of the net. The visitors rallied but without avail. They found it impossible to make headway against Lee or Brookes and with Town's return to the offensive their goal fell a third time. Two minutes from the close Hanney was fouled by Hammond in a race for possession and a penalty was awarded. Townsend took the kick and with a splendid left-foot shot planted the ball well out of Hammond's reach high into the corner of the net. It was a brilliant shot.

Rugby Town v Nuneaton Town 25-03-1933

Rugby: Clewlow; Hickman and Burrows; Jones, Read and Watkins; Varnish, Lee, Harding, Trew and McGregor.

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Sparrow and Townsend.

Nuneaton Town made the journey to play Rugby Town in a Birmingham Combination fixture.

The game was not ten minutes old when Nuneaton took the lead following a free-kick. Hanney drove the ball with great force towards the goal and a defender was unfortunate enough to deflect the ball out of Clewlow's reach. Rugby replied with great determination to this reverse, but the Nuneaton defence held and a return to the attack saw several promising moves break down. Again Rugby returned to the attack and scored, only for the goal to be given offside.

In the ensuing play Nuneaton were seen to better advantage, but Clewlow kept goal brilliantly and with good support from the defence proved an obstacle to Nuneaton's progress. There were a number of thrilling incidents at both ends before Rugby secured the equalising goal five minutes before the interval, when Trew beat Brindley and sent in a brilliant drive which completely beat Godderidge. Directly afterwards Townsend missed a glorious chance with only Clewlow to beat, but shot high enough for the latter to bring off a good save.

Rugby were the more dangerous side when the game was resumed, but it was not until after 23 minutes' play that they secured the lead when Harding was presented with an open goal and he made no mistake in putting the ball into the back of the net. This lead was short-lived, for only three minutes had elapsed before Hanney and Townsend combined for the latter to put the scores level.

The game took on a more interesting aspect and with both teams out to secure the lead there were thrills and incidents in every minute of the remaining play. Rugby's third goal was rather remarkable from the point of view of the referee's decision. A fast attack led to McGregor turning the ball inside the post but instead of giving a goal, the referee awarded a

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penalty to Rugby, although there was no apparent reason for his doing so. Read converted from the spot-kick. With only six minutes to go Nuneaton again levelled the scores when Sparrow met a centre from Pick with his head and directed the ball into the net.

Nuneaton were best served by Lee, Brookes and Godderidge. These three defenders have more than proved their worth to the team in the past few months and once again the credit for their team sharing the points goes to them. Godderidge was superb in goal.

Nuneaton Town v Atherstone Town 01-04-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Sparrow and Townsend.

Atherstone: Kester; Jeffries and Armfield; Lillcrop, Gilbert and Kind; Askew, Day, Godderidge, Waltho and Danks.

Atherstone Town visited Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination fixture. The attendance was at least 2,000 less than the previous season's encounter, although Atherstone supporters were present in good numbers.

Nuneaton were seen at their best in the first half, when forced to defend for the most part against their visitors, who were greatly assisted by a strong following breeze, which caused Nuneaton considerable anxiety. That they kept their goal intact during a gruelling 45 minutes was indeed a credit to their defensive ability. Time and time again the fast Atherstone forwards swept down on the goal only to be beaten back by brilliant work on the part of Brookes, Lee and Godderidge.

Brookes was the mainstay of the Nuneaton defence and his strong kicking and robust tackling proved disconcerting to Atherstone's lighter forwards. The full-backs, however, were not greatly assisted by the half-backs. Rooke might have improved Nuneaton's play if he had opened the game out, but instead of passing out to the wing, he was content to tap the ball either to right or left half-back. Medhurst was the only half-back who showed any disposition to feed his forwards.

If anything Nuneaton forwards were more impressive than their opposites during this half, although there were a number of thrilling goal-mouth incidents on both sides. The Atherstone defence were just as much on top as Nuneaton's and the interval came without either side registering a score.

As the second half progressed the wind dropped and the advantage which Atherstone had failed to profit by in the first-half was lost to Nuneaton. There were some fast passages and the ball travelled quickly from end to end, before Atherstone took the lead 17 minutes into the second half, following a melee in front of the Nuneaton goal. With Godderidge out of position, Waltho snapped up the ball and touched it into the empty net.

Considerably heartened by this lucky break, Atherstone immediately returned to the attack and within three minutes, had scored a second goal, when the centre-forward Godderidge broke through and beat two Nuneaton defenders before placing

the ball past his brother in the Nuneaton goal. Nuneaton were well-beaten at this stage and from then until the close Atherstone were generally in complete possession of the play.

Birmingham City A v Nuneaton Town 08-04-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Edge, Hanney, Walker and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Bedworth to play Birmingham City A in a Birmingham Combination fixture. The Birmingham side contained several players who had appeared in the First Division this season. Nuneaton included two new players in their line-up, Edge, an amateur who has played with Rhyl Athletic and Hughie Boyd, a product of local junior football, who has been playing with Griff Colliery.

Nuneaton's task appeared to be an hopeless one from the outset. Birmingham held them at every point, and try as they might, Town obtained nothing but a momentary advantage over their opponents. True, they gave the home side a worrying time in the first half, when they had the advantage of the slope, so much so that Birmingham were far too occupied in frustrating Nuneaton's forward efforts to attempt to feed their own forwards. The result was that midfield play characterised the first half of the game to a marked degree.

Indeed there was little to interest the spectators in this half and then only an occasional chance shot went near the mark. Nuneaton's defence held out with amazing pluck and fortitude during a gruelling 45 minutes, but they found the fast pace set by their opponents was such that they could never equal, and when the game was resumed after the interval Nuneaton began to noticeably flag in their efforts to hold out against Birmingham.

There were a number of decisions which did not find favour with the Nuneaton spectators, but the one which roused their ire most was Birmingham's final goal, scored from a penalty. In the first place Argue was supposed to have been fouled. He dropped to the ground certainly, but came up smiling when the referee blew for the penalty. Lane took the kick and Godderidge saved, but the referee judged that the goalkeeper had moved before the shot was made, and ordered the kick to be retaken. Lane was successful in his second attempt but to the amazement of the crowd Godderidge moved again before the kick was taken, but the referee failed to notice the action and awarded a goal. Smith the Birmingham A centre-forward got the other three goals.

There were no apparent weaknesses in the Birmingham side. Jackie Randle was the inspiration of his team at full-back. Grice played a useful game at centre-half and Argue, Smith and Thorogood were always to the fore in the front line.

Brookes was easily the best defender on the visiting side. Time and time again he raced in to clear at the critical moment and his efforts earned unstinted praise from both sections of spectators.



Nuneaton Town v Leamington Town 10-04-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Taylor and Brookes; Roseby, Medhurst and Brindley; Bird, Edge, Hanney, Dewis and Townsend.

Leamington: Burdett; Davis and Sharpe; Forrest, Bunn and Smith; Shanks, Metheral, Woodward, Cooper and Reading.

Nuneaton welcomed Leamington Town to Manor Park for the semi-final of the Leamington Hospital Cup.

In the first minute Godderidge was brought to his knees by a fast ground shot from Metheral and during the ensuing play there was an astounding decision given by the referee. A centre from the Leamington right was missed by Taylor and Godderidge came out to clear with a clean kick. There was no apparent infringement, yet the referee ordered a penalty. Sharpe took the kick but his weak attempt was easily saved by Godderidge, who in full view of the spectators, moved several feet before the kick was taken. The referee chose to ignore this.

After 12 minutes Nuneaton took the lead following a free-kick in the Leamington penalty area. Hanney took the kick and passed to Dewis for the latter to convert. Six minutes later Leamington equalised when Taylor let in the visitors left wing and gave Woodward an easy scoring chance. A minute later Leamington were a goal ahead, Woodward again taking advantage of a mistake on the part of Brookes. Woodward completed his hat-trick after 30 minutes with a header.

In the second half there was another peculiar decision given by the referee. Godderidge had run out to save when a Leamington forward deliberately tipped the ball out of Godderidge's hands. Brookes handled the ball under the impression that the referee had awarded a free-kick against the Leamington forward for handling, but instead the official ordered a penalty, but altered his decision after an appeal from the Nuneaton players and a consultation with the linesman.

With 20 minutes to go, Nuneaton reduced the arrears when Bird centred for the players to bunch together in the visitors' goal and force the ball into the net. At the close Nuneaton made a desperate attempt to equalise without success.

Nuneaton Town v Bournville Athletic 15-04-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Bird, Medhurst and Boyd; Pick, Dewis, Hanney, Brindley and Townsend.

Bournville: Lilley; Booth and Passent; Bates, Wain and Sheppard; Capewell, Mason, Austin, Astle and Price.

Nuneaton welcomed Bournville Athletic to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination match.

A penalty, converted by Townsend after 15 minutes, gave Nuneaton a narrow victory. The game resolved itself into a battle between the respective defences and both proved superior to the opposing forwards. Nuneaton were much the better team and with greater assistance from the inside-forwards would have produced a much higher score. An improvement in the form of both Pick and Townsend, particularly the former, on the home right and left wing, was

brought to nought by the inability of Hanney, Dewis and Bird to take full advantage of the openings provided. Added to that, Lilley gave a brilliant exhibition in the Bournville goal. He was somewhat unfortunate to be beaten by Townsend's spot kick which was travelling fast and low, but appeared to be within his reach.

The return to form of Pick, Nuneaton's right winger, was one of the redeeming features of otherwise ineffective forward play. With unfailing regularity, for he was supplied with the ball more frequently than has been the case in recent weeks, he beat all opposition and sent across a perfect centre, but to the disappointment of home supporters, not one of the inside men was able to secure possession of the ball.

Rooke's forced absence from the intermediate line gave an opportunity to try Medhurst in the centre-half position once again and the experiment proved successful. Medhurst might not be such a scientific footballer as Rooke, but he got the ball forward every time and opened out the game, so as to give his forwards every opportunity of making progress.

Medhurst had young Boyd, the former Griff Colliery forward on his left and in that position he was seen to better advantage than the previous Saturday, although his slowness and inexperience caused additional work for the full backs on odd occasions. Bird was brought back to right-half but at the interval moved to inside left and allowed Brindley to take his original position.

Lee was guilty of several errors of judgment but Brookes was well on form and Godderidge had a quiet time in goal. Hanney was entirely off form and hardly touched the ball all afternoon. The number of shots he made could be counted on the fingers of both hands. Dewis was clumsy at times, but made one or two good openings. Neither Brindley nor Bird did anything of note while they occupied the inside-left position.

Bournville's forwards were no match for a strong home defence, but their rearguard showed up well against Town's front line.

Nuneaton Town v Cheltenham Town 17-04-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; R. Cooper, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Flanagan, Hanney, Jones and Townsend.

Cheltenham: Davis; Jones and Williams; Lang, Goodger and Peberdy; Payne, Knight, Collins, Gough and Mason.

Nuneaton welcomed Cheltenham Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Combination game. Medhurst and Bird were unavailable and the team was made up by the inclusion of W. Flanagan and W. Jones, two Bermuda forwards, and R. Cooper at right half-back. The youngsters tried hard, but were no match for the more experienced opposition players.

The forwards were rendered absolutely powerless by the superior Cheltenham defence and throughout the game had little chance. Under such circumstances Nuneaton's defeat was not altogether unexpected. The visitors were quickly off the mark and Godderidge was tested in the first minute by Gough. Brookes relieved during a further attack, but still Nuneaton were unable to make any progress and



Cheltenham continued to press. Knight went close and a moment or so later hit the post.

Pick was injured and had to leave the field, but he returned a few minutes later. Cooper put in a fierce drive for the home team, which Davis fumbled before finally clearing. An exciting scene in front of the Nuneaton goal caused the home defence some concern for after Godderidge had cleared Goodger had a perfect opportunity, but miscontrolled the ball.

Cheltenham were continually on the offensive and Godderidge saved well from Mason and Brindley was seen to advantage in stemming a right wing raid. Cheltenham took the lead after 38 minutes when a throw-in near the corner flag led to Knight meeting the ball in mid-air and turning it neatly into the Nuneaton goal. Nuneaton had an attack before the break when Davis saved from Townsend.

Nuneaton started the second half without Pick or Townsend, but set up an attack which saw Flanagan try a long shot. Rooke tested Davis and then a siege on the Nuneaton goal saw Brookes playing brilliantly. Gouch failed with a first-time shot and Lang was also wide of the mark. Townsend returned 20 minutes after the break and went inside-left.

The play at this period grew less exciting and Cheltenham, although continuing mainly on the offensive, were not so forceful as previously. Nuneaton's attack had no power whatever, and their every move was counteracted by the visiting defenders. Brindley caused a thrill with a brilliant long shot, which was tipped onto the post by Davis. Nuneaton escaped from a free-kick and after Flanagan had failed to loose the ball, Godderidge had to run out to clear. The end came none too soon for the harrassed Nuneaton defenders, to whom the greatest praise is due for a gallant uphill fight.

Cheltenham Town v Nuneaton Town 18-04-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Taylor and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pearson, Smith, Hanney, Paul and Townsend.

Nuneaton made the journey to Whaddon Road, home of Cheltenham Town, for a Birmingham Combination match.

When it is considered that they were defeated at home by the same side the previous day, Nuneaton performed very creditably to draw 2-2 at Cheltenham on Tuesday.

The visitors had Taylor at right full-back for Lee, Medhurst returned to the side at right-half, Kent was at outside right and George Paul at inside-left. Fortunately, Townsend was able to turn out on the left-wing.

Nuneaton did surprisingly well in the first half and scored two goals without reply. Paul opened their account following a free-kick, and Hanney got a second goal from Kent's centre.

Cheltenham had more of the game after the change of ends. Lang reduced the lead after 65 minutes' play, and Goodger levelled the score on 73 minutes. Godderidge gave a fine display in the Nuneaton goal.

Bromsgrove Rovers v Nuneaton Town 22-04-1933

Bromsgrove: Hammond; Matthews and Rees; Jones, Scott and Moran; Hooper, Ridding, Bissell, Hancox and Field.

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Kent, Flanagan, Hanney, Higham and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Bromsgrove to take on the bottom of the table side in a Birmingham Combination game.

Town found their opponents a much harder proposition than they perhaps expected and were forced to fight all through the game. The result was in doubt up to the last minute and at no time in the second half were Nuneaton sure of their position.

Mistakes by both sides were made very early in the game. Hanney headed outside when Hammond was out of position and Bissill missed an open goal for his side. There were but few thrills in the play which fluctuated from penalty area to penalty area, and few shots which appeared likely to result in goals. The game was nearly 40 minutes old before Nuneaton registered the opening goal. Townsend sent across a glorious centre for Higham to snap on to the ball and touch it into the net. A minute later Hanney sent Townsend away again and he returned the ball for the centre-forward to score.

Bromsgrove reduced the arrears directly after the break when Hooper centred for Hancox to beat Godderidge with a header. Play improved and there were prospects of a keen dual between the two teams. Bromsgrove were fighting hard to retrieve their position and Town were forced to defend for some time. The equaliser came 27 minutes after the break when Bromsgrove were awarded a penalty, which Scott converted. Both made a last effort to take the lead but the defences prevailed.

Nuneaton generally showed the greater cleverness but it was equalised by the greater speed of Bromsgrove. A draw was a very accurate indication of the run of play, during which the defences predominated.

Nuneaton Resign From Birmingham Combination

At a meeting of the Birmingham Combination on Thursday of last week, Cannock Town, Gresley Rovers, Market Harborough and Nuneaton sent in their resignations, to take effect at the end of the season. It was stated that Nuneaton are applying for membership of the Third Division of the League. The resignation of the other three clubs has been brought about by financial difficulties.

The President, Councillor J. C. Tillotson, on behalf of the Combination, said they would be sorry to lose the clubs, who had been staunch friends of the League. In the case of Nuneaton, he wished them every success in their proposed new venture.

The remaining fifteen clubs of the League expressed their intention to continue, and it was decided to advertise for clubs to fill the vacancies.



Nuneaton Apply for Division Three South

At a meeting of the Management Committee of the Football League in London on Friday, it was announced that three new clubs – Nuneaton, Llanelli and Merthyr Town – had applied for admission to the Southern Division of the Third Division next season.

Nuneaton Town v Gresley Rovers 29-04-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Lee and Brookes; Medhurst, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Boyd, Dewis, Higham and Townsend.

Nuneaton welcomed Gresley Rovers to Manor Park for the final home game of the season, in the Birmingham Combination. It was the smallest and quietest crowd of the season. The appeal for greater support for the final match fell on deaf ears as the FA Cup final proved a greater attraction, giving the lie to those who contend that the broadcasting of big matches does not affect the support at local club matches.

Within three minutes of the start, Nuneaton had shown their superiority when Boyd opened the scoring following a neat movement on the part of Rooke, Brindley and Townsend. It was the latter who centred for Boyd to score easily. Styles completely misjudged the ball. Medhurst, Boyd and Pick were responsible for Nuneaton's next dangerous move which culminated in Higham sending in a fast drive which Styles did well to tip over the bar for a corner. Dewis added a clever header from Pick's centre and shortly after Styles had to punch clear on no less than five successive occasions, all within the space of a couple of minutes.

Harris got the ball in for Gresley after 20 minutes, but the goal was not allowed owing to the player being offside. Five minutes later Townsend gave Dewis his second goal. Nuneaton's superiority was most pronounced and the visitors were penned in their own half and as far as Nuneaton were concerned it was only a question of time and a well-directed shot before they went further ahead.

Three minutes after half-time Townsend gave Higham the chance to register Nuneaton's fourth goal. There was a lull in the game before Gresley cut the arrears through Richards, but less than a minute later, Townsend ran through on his own to score Nuneaton's fifth goal with a terrific shot. With 15 minutes to go Dewis scored Nuneaton's sixth goal, and completed his hat-trick. Eight minutes later Gresley were awarded a penalty but Godderidge made a splendid save from Jenkins' shot.

The Nuneaton defenders more than held their own against the Gresley forwards and were able to support their own forwards to a greater degree than has been the case in recent weeks. Brookes was the outstanding defender, but the whole of the back division played well together.

Dudley Town v Nuneaton Town 06-05-1933

Nuneaton: Godderidge; Roseby and Brookes; Cooper, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Boyd, Dewis, Hanney and Townsend.

Nuneaton travelled to Dudley Town for the final Birmingham Combination match of the season. Nuneaton were forced to put out a scratch team in the absence of Medhurst and Lee, who were replaced by Roseby and Cooper. Hanney returned at inside-left and two junior players, Dewis and Boyd were included in the side.

While they were fresh, the Nuneaton defenders were able to withhold the Dudley attacks and there were some keen exchanges in the early play. Brookes was particularly prominent in defence but his partner was none too sure of himself. The home side were mainly in the attack and Godderidge was called upon time and time again, but it was not until the last six minutes that he was first beaten by Clarke and a minute or so later by Lane.

The second half resumed with rain falling heavily and the ground was soon covered in water. Players were slipping about and the game became farcical. Dudley adapted themselves to the conditions better than Nuneaton, who, at this time seemed content to confine their activities to defensive work.

Seven minutes after the interval Postin scored the home side's third goal, but Godderidge was at fault or the ball would never have reached the net. A Nuneaton attack then led to Brindley, who had moved to inside-right, securing possession and after racing in, he beat Hadley with a difficult shot. By this time Nuneaton had more or less shot their bolt. Dudley added a fourth goal with 24 minutes to go and in the closing minutes Sheppard scored their fifth and final goal of the match.

Godderidge was responsible for some magnificent saves, but in the first half the Nuneaton defence, though not up to their usual standard, did some effective work. The forwards, particularly in the second half, could be excused somewhat for their lapses in view of the conditions in which they were called upon to operate.

Nuneaton's Football League Bid Fails

Nuneaton's application to join the Football League Division Three South was unsuccessful when Swindon Town (45 votes) and Newport County (26 votes) were re-elected. Llanelli (20 votes) came closest to election. Nuneaton Town received just one vote.

Darlington and New Brighton were re-elected to the Third Division (Northern).

A motion put forward by Sheffield United that clubs who desired to do so may admit unemployed persons on production of their cards at a minimum charge of sixpence, was defeated by a large majority. A motion that players be numbered failed to carry.



Lessons To Be Learned From Nuneaton's Failings

Review Of The Past Season

The 1932-33 football season will go down, as far as Nuneaton is concerned, as the season in which a definite attempt was made by the directors to answer the oft-repeated appeal for better class football in the town. Although that attempt proved unsuccessful, a certain amount of congratulations is due the club authorities for the effort they made to raise the status of the club by applying for admission to the Southern Section of the Third Division even though – and this was pointed out when the club's application came before the appropriate committee – the financial position of the club was such as to create an obstacle to their election.

It is well-known that the ground was re-purchased by the club several years ago for £3,000 on a mortgage. This figure has been reduced to one of £1,600 and the Football Association hold a mortgage on the ground for that amount on a fifteen year term. The share capital at the moment is £2,000 but only £1,500 has been subscribed. It is the intention of the directors to renew the application as soon as the club's financial position permits. As this can only depend upon the support received, it is hoped that Nuneaton "soccer" enthusiasts will rally round the club next season and help the management to realise their ambition once again.

Next Season's Football

The class of football in which Nuneaton will compete next season has not definitely been settled. They are to apply for election to the Birmingham and District League, and as the applications are now closed until May 29th, it is impossible to forecast the result, although there is strong reason for believing that the club's application will be successful. Here again, there is a need to plead for greater support. It is a proven fact that expenses for travelling in the Birmingham District League will amount to nearly as much as Third Division costs. As the majority of supporters have voted for the District League as against the Birmingham Combination, it behoves all those who did so to make their attendance at Manor Park regular whenever the team is at home. Strangely enough, Nuneaton have only received but meagre support in their away fixtures, and in this particular direction there is also need for increased support.

No Reserve Team

In reviewing the past season the fact must not be overlooked that from the very beginning the club was handicapped by the decision of the directors not to run a reserve team. It was an economy move on their part but before the season came to a close it proved a costly and unsuccessful experiment. It was one which, without doubt, will prove a lesson to the directors and an experience to remember in building up a winning team in the future.

Halfway through the season the club was without a serious rival in the League. The eleven were undefeated in League games up to December 17th and there was every promise that they would finish at the top of the table with ease. Such optimism was quickly shattered when Halesowen, Wolverhampton A, Cannock, Leamington, Atherstone and Birmingham A secured the verdict over the "Nuns" and from the top position Nuneaton finally dropped to finish fourth in the League table.

Envious Record

The club's record up until Christmas was an envious one, but one which they maintained only just so long as the eleven members of the team retained their position and form. Relying on no more than a dozen players to carry them through the season they were successful up to a point, but directly injuries and loss of form kept players out of the team the directors were faced with the only alternative of asking local clubs to supply them with men. It was an acknowledged fact that the senior club was totally unable to obtain the services of the best of the junior players and had to be content with the next best. In saying that these players did not reach the Birmingham Combination standard one does not mean to be reproachful because it is evident that they gave of their best and the fact that their presence was not a marked asset to the team was in no way due to lack of determination and enthusiasm, but mainly to inexperience. It is also rumoured that on more than one occasion difficulties cropped up between certain players and the management...

Individual Performances

In dealing with the individual performances of the players, one cannot help but single out Brookes as the most consistent member of the team. From beginning to end, the service he rendered never varied and the displays he gave invariably classed him as the strongest defender the club has had for a number of years. Although his partner Arthur Lee, was not quite so brilliant, he was nevertheless the next most consistent defender in the side and together the two carried the "Nuns" through the season with considerable credit to themselves. George Lilley left the club during the season and the services of Godderidge, former Leicester City and Hinckley United keeper, were secured. He also proved a strong link in Nuneaton's chain of defence but there were occasions when the curbing of his impatience to run out and clear would have meant goals saved. In the concluding games he gave yeoman service when it was most needed.

The Centre-Half Position

The half-back line was the one around which most controversy ensued. Rooke did not find favour as a centre-half with quite a number of supporters and the former West Bromwich Albion player was criticised on a number of occasions for his seeming imperfections. He was not one to open out the game with long-range passes to his forwards,



but chose rather to indulge in short passing movement to which the forwards failed to respond...

Forward Difficulties

Only during the first part of the season were the forwards unchanged in their various positions and while they remained so they could always be relied upon to get the goals. But as soon as alterations were made, the standard of the forward play fell until at the close of the season the front line was ragged, disjointed and weak. Heathcock was the first new player given a trial at inside-left, a position which has always given the directors a deal of trouble to fill, but he did not stay long, and Newey, a Coventry youth, was next seen in this position. For the first few weeks he gave promise of developing into a first-class player and then for some reason or other he fell away and the next heard of him was that he had left Nuneaton, signed for Atherstone, and had had a trial with Leicester City.

After this a number of local youths were given the opportunity of proving their worth, but from the time of Newey's departure and the close of the season no suitable deputy had been found.

The constant chopping and changing of the forward line failed to yield good results and affected the play of every man. After a brilliant opening Hanney was less in evidence as week succeeded week and the same might be said of the others.

Pick and Townsend were brilliant spasmodically on the extreme wings. Bird was the biggest disappointment of the season. He never appeared to settle down at any time and he was an absentee in the last month or so.

Hanney headed the list of goalscorers with 51 goals to his credit. Next comes Pick with 17 and in the following order Newey with 12, Townsend 10, Bird 10, Brindley 5, Heathcock 4, Dewis 4, Sparrow 3, Smith 2, Higham 2, Rooke 1, Wombwell 1, Edge 1, Paul 1 and Boyd 1.

Birmingham Combination Final Table 1932-1933

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Redditch	36	28	1	7	124	61	57
Birmingham "A"	36	26	4	6	132	46	56
Cheltenham Town	36	20	7	9	93	61	47
Nuneaton Town	36	18	9	9	107	68	45
Wolves "A"	36	17	9	10	103	53	43
Atherstone Town	36	18	7	11	106	74	43
Cannock Town	36	19	4	13	99	79	42
Market Harboro' Town	36	16	3	17	95	87	35
Dudley Town	36	16	3	17	86	91	35
Halesowen Town	36	15	5	16	96	103	35
Rugby Town	36	14	6	16	64	89	34
Evesham Town	36	16	1	19	76	92	33
Hinckley United	36	14	3	19	98	110	31
Gresley Rovers	36	13	3	20	71	91	29
Bournville Athletic	36	12	5	19	72	115	29
Leamington Town	36	12	3	21	72	122	27
Darlaston	36	6	11	19	80	122	23
Birmingham Trams	36	9	3	24	64	115	21
Bromsgrove Rovers	36	7	5	24	74	133	19

Nuneaton Accepted Into Birmingham League

Nuneaton Association Football Club's application for admission to the Birmingham and District League was granted at a recent meeting of that body.

The Nuneaton club was represented by Messrs. Wheway, Deans, Ford and Pembleton, directors. The application of Cannock Town was also granted and Stafford Rangers, who finished at the bottom of the table, have been re-elected. Walsall Reserves withdrew and the League will now comprise 19 instead of 18 clubs..

Shrewsbury Town – Extra-Preliminary Round

Nuneaton made the journey to Shrewsbury Town for a Preliminary Round FA Cup tie.

Nuneaton: Lilley; Lee and Brookes; Johnson, Rooke and Brindley; Pick, Bird, Hanney, Heathcock and Townsend..

Nuneaton Town were particularly unfortunate on Saturday in losing their inside-forward, Heathcock, after half-an-hour's play.

Shrewsbury are a fast and clever side and they were fortunate in having Olney, the ex-Villa keeper, between the sticks. He gave a great exhibition,

finishing up by saving a penalty kick taken by Hanney, the Nuneaton centre-forward. It was a hard shot but Olney deflected the ball on to the upright and punched it clear from the rebound.

Hanney was well-watched and did not have much chance to shoot often. Townsend played his usual forceful game on the wing and Bird was the best in the first half. Brindley was the best of the half-back line and Brookes at full-back.

Lilley was not quite so safe as usual in goal and he completely missed the ball when trying to punch away, giving the visitors their equalising goal.

Three thousand spectators cheered lustily when Nuneaton opened the scoring three minutes after the start when Heathcock hooked the ball into the net from a corner taken by Townsend.

Lilley then misjudged the shot by Cull for the visitors to equalise whilst Burgess netted the rebound off his own shot to make the visitors the leaders by 2-1 at the interval.

Shrewsbury went away after the resumption and Taylor scored the only goal of this half with a fast volley. Nuneaton had the best of the play in this half, but they met with a solid defence from Wigley, Fryer and Mound.



Birmingham Combination: Fixtures, Results & Scorers- 1932-33

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers
08.27	Redditch	Home	League	3-1	Hanney (2), Heathcock
08.29	Hinckley United	Home	NCC Final	4-4	Hanney (3), Bird
09.03	Market Harborough	Away	League	2-0	Hanney, Bird
09.10	WBA A	Home	NHC Final	3-5	Hanney (2), Pick
09.12	Hinckley United	Home	NCC Final Replay	4-0	Bird (2), Hanney, Pick
09.17	Shrewsbury Town	Home	FAC Prelim.	1-3	Heathcock
09.24	Cannock Town	Home	League	3-1	Hanney (3)
10.01	Birmingham Trams	Away	League	7-1	Hanney (2), Heathcock (2), Townsend (2), Newey
10.08	Gresley Rovers	Away	League	2-2	Brindley (2)
10.15	Halesowen	Away	League	3-2	Hanney (2), Newey
10.22	Darlaston	Away	League	3-1	Hanney, Bird, Pick
10.29	Evesham Town	Home	League	6-0	Hanney (3), Pick (3)
11.05	Atherstone	Away	BSC 3	3-7	Hanney (3)
11.12	Rugby Town	Home	League	6-0	Newey (3), Hanney (2), Pick
11.19	Atherstone Town	Away	League	7-2	Hanney (2), Bird (2), Newey (2), Pick
11.26	Birmingham City A	Home	League	3-1	Pick (2), Hanney
12.03	Bournville Athletic	Away	League	2-2	Hanney, Newey
12.10	Birmingham Works	Home	Friendly	1-2	Pick
12.17	Halesowen	Home	League	2-5	Brindley (2)
12.24	Dudley Town	Home	League	7-0	Hanney (4), Pick (2), Smith
12.26	Hinckley United	Home	League	3-3	Hanney, Pick, Townsend
12.27	Hinckley United	Away	League	2-1	Newey (2)
12.31	Wolves	Away	League	1-3	Hanney
01.07	Redditch	Away	League	1-5	Newey
01.14	Market Harborough	Home	League	8-2	Hanney (4), Townsend (2), Sparrow, Pick
01.21	Wolves	Home	League	0-0	
01.28	Leamington Town	Home	League	2-2	Hanney, Rooke
02.04	Cannock Town	Away	League	1-4	Wombwell
02.11	Birmingham Trams	Home	League	5-0	Hanney (2), Pick, Newey, Townsend
02.18	Leamington Town	Away	League	2-4	Hanney, Bird
03.04	Darlaston	Home	League	3-3	Hanney (2), Bird
03.11	Evesham Town	Away	League	5-2	Hanney (2), Pick (2), Bird
03.18	Bromsgrove Rovers	Home	League	3-1	Townsend (2), Sparrow
03.25	Rugby Town	Away	League	3-3	Hanney (2), Sparrow
04.01	Atherstone Town	Home	League	0-2	
04.08	Birmingham City A	Away	League	0-4	
04.10	Leamington Town	Home	LHC S-F	2-3	Dewis, Edge
04.15	Bournville Athletic	Home	League	1-0	Townsend
04.17	Cheltenham	Home	League	0-1	
04.18	Cheltenham	Away	League	2-2	Hanney, Paul
04.22	Bromsgrove Rovers	Away	League	2-2	Hanney, Higham
04.29	Gresley Rovers	Home	League	6-1	Dewis (3), Townsend, Higham, Boyd
05.06	Dudley Town	Away	League	1-5	Brindley

Legend: NCC – Nuneaton Charity Cup; NHC – Nuneaton Hospital Cup; BSC – Birmingham Senior Cup
LHC – Leamington Hospital Cup



Appointment of Billy Holmes as Trainer

New Admission Prices

The close season activities of the Nuneaton Association Football Club have reached a stage further towards completion with the appointment of Mr "Billy" Holmes, former Nuneaton FC trainer and player, as trainer, with Mr Alfred Hall as his assistant.

It is also announced that the prices of admission for first team (Birmingham and District League) matches this coming season will be 9d. to the ground and 6d. extra for the stand. Ladies will be admitted to any part of the ground on payment of 9d.

Season tickets can now be secured for the stand at £1 for men (ground 12s. 6d.), ladies and boys 12s. 6d. to any part of the ground.

The directors, it is understood, are to appeal for the £500 unsubscribed capital to be taken up.

The signatures of several players of note are expected but no names can be given until the agreements are signed.

The reserve team will compete in the Coventry and North Warwickshire League and Mr George Carr (player-manager) invites local youths for a trial at Manor Park any time between 10am and 12 noon each morning of the week, and between 7pm and 8pm on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Six Players Signed On

Mr George Carr, Nuneaton Town FC's new player-manager, had begun his work and already has signed on five players for the coming season. Three of these are players who have assisted the club in past years. They are Brookes, left full-back; G. Brindley, half-back and E. Pick, outside-right. The two other players signed on are a goalkeeper, Jim McKenna, who has had three seasons with Leicester City, and White, an inside-forward, late of the Hereford club. Carr will probably play at centre-half.

Nuneaton Town AFC AGM

1933-34 Season In The Birmingham & District League

The Nuneaton Association Football Club has celebrated its 25th year by returning to Birmingham and District League football and the Annual Meeting of the Club at the Cock and Bear Inn, on Wednesday night, its future success was optimistically foreshadowed. Mr G. H. Wheway (Chairman of the Directors) presided in the absence of Council G. Taylor (President) and others present included Messrs. W. Deans, T. Ellis, S. J. Butler, T. Ford, and Alderman Pembleton (directors) and Mr F. J. Perry (Hon. Secretary).

The Annual Report

In presenting the annual report, the Directors stated they were pleased to again report a profit on the year's working, which was only brought about by strict economy. Although the profit was not very large, they considered it satisfactory, when taking into consideration the fact that the income showed a decrease of over £400 on the previous 12 months working. They had erected a new shelter and spent a considerable amount of money on the maintenance of the ground. The new shelter for which no extra charge was made, was greatly appreciated by the supporters.

The Directors made a special appeal for the unissued capital to be taken up. They had made a step towards English League football. Although the club's application was unsuccessful to the Third Division, they had gained admission to the Birmingham and District League, and to increase the standard of the football had engaged Mr George Carr (formerly of Leicester City) as player-manager.

The Directors again wished to place on record their appreciation of the services of the hon. secretary, as well as the much valued assistance of the Supporters' Club.

Balance Sheet

The balance sheet showed that £694 19s. 11d. was expended on players' wages and bonus. £195 19s. 6d. on travelling and hotel expenses; ground maintenance £65 4s. 4d.; and a balance of £16 1s. The income account showed that £1119 15s. 7d. was received in gate receipts for league matches, £335 13s. in cup-ties and £41 1s. 4d. in friendly and practice matches. £280 4s. 6d. was paid in entertainment tax; £107 12s. 5d. to visiting teams and £67 2s. to charitable institutions. The Supporters' Club contributed £55.

Reasons For Reduction In Income

In moving the adoption of the report and balance sheet the Chairman remarked that the reduced income was brought about by the club's early dismissal from the English Cup competition, illness to players necessitating team changes, and the indifferent display of some members of the team, which caused diminished gates towards the close of the season.

During the coming season the directors were determined to have a better class football in Nuneaton and although the directors were not successful in the application for admission to the Third Division of the English League, they had done the next best thing in applying, and being admitted to membership of the Birmingham League. As far as their application for membership in the Third Division was concerned, he might point out that Nuneaton was acceptable from point of view of ground accommodation, railway and hotel facilities, but the financial position of the club was not good enough and that was the main thing.

They had started the season well by appointing Mr George Carr as player-manager and the more the directors saw of



him the better they liked him. They were placing absolute trust in him and he himself did not think that trust would be misplaced.

Chairman's Appeal

Mr Wheway appealed for the unissued capital to be taken up. When they next applied for admission to the English League this matter of the club's finances would be brought up again and he wanted them to be sure of their acceptance. For the past seven seasons the club had shown a balance on the right side. Surely that was sufficient to inspire a little confidence in the management?

Mr Wheway made special mention of the barracking of players last season and added that the Directors welcomed honest criticisms of the players and themselves, but there were many young players who had been spoiled by barracking. It was impossible for a player not to make a mistake and he appealed to the spectators to put themselves in the position of the player and hesitate before criticising.

The club had a good programme for the coming season. The Christmas Day match would take place on the morning instead of the afternoon and would be against Cradley.

In concluding, Mr Wheway extended his thanks to the secretary, the Supporters' Club, ambulance men and the Press.

Realised Mistakes

Mr Deans, seconding the adoption of the report and balance sheet, said he was surprised the club had made even a small profit. He made particular reference to the standard of play last season and added that it was not an easy matter to retrieve their fallen position towards the latter part of the season. They had not a player with sufficient ability and personality to hold the team together and it was not an easy matter to get rid of the players for they had to be paid whether they played or not, and so with reduced gates the bank balance dwindled into insignificance.

They realised now that they were wrong in starting the season with the same old players and this year conditions would be much altered. Of last year's players only Brookes, Brindley and Pick had been retained. Mr Carr had been appointed player-manager and the club had the signature of McKenna, former Leicester City goalkeeper, and White, a forward from Hereford. Mr Carr was in communication with several well-known professionals and in a few days the club hoped to be in a position to inform its supporters as to who would be playing in next season's team.

Team Improvements

Mr Deans added that last year it was also realised that players were out of condition and unfit to last ninety minutes and were not seen from one Saturday to the next. This year all players would report on the ground for practice at least two nights each week and it was hoped that at least six players

in the team would be full-time professionals, training every day. The club intended to place a fully trained and fit eleven on the field. With better players, better results should be obtained and he was confident that success would be theirs.

There was a splendid opportunity for the public to rally round and if, at the end of next season, they had a balance in hand of £500 say, then a further application would be made for admission to the English League and, he hoped, would prove successful.

Criticism of Players' Salaries

Mr Fred Payne (former player-manager and director) expressed the opinion that the figures for players' wages, directors' and travelling expenses were too high for Birmingham Combination football. Their expenses amounted to £32 each week and to meet that a gate of 2,500 was needed at every home match. Last season the average attendance was 2,200.

The Secretary replied that one of these three items alone showed a reduction of £100 over the previous year. The average takings at the gate last year totalled £53 each week.

Mr Payne again emphasised the fact that the wage bill was far too high and if they went any higher in the District League, they would find themselves in financial difficulties. When the club was last in the District League a loss of £600 each year was made. They did not want that to happen again.

The Chairman answered that he trusted such a thing would not happen to the club. They were out to do well in the League, but it was a gamble which they were prepared to face and win.

Mr Deans pointed out that Nuneaton "soccer" supporters were dissatisfied with Birmingham Combination football. If Nuneaton with its population of 80,000 could not run a better team than Atherstone or Hinckley, then it was time they closed the gates of Manor Park.

Alderman Pembleton said he was sorry Mr Payne did not take an optimistic view of the club's future. He had every confidence in the progress of the club and suggested that they should bury the past and look upon Birmingham League football as a stepping stone to better class football.

Fatal Mistake

Mr Payne said he hoped that this year a second team would be run in conjunction with the senior eleven. It was a fatal mistake not to run a reserve team last year.

Mr Deans agreed and informed the meeting that the club's application for membership of the Coventry and North Warwickshire League had been granted.

The report and balance sheet were adopted without further comment.

Of the directors, Messrs. J. Baxter, S. J. Butler and T. Ford retired and the latter two were re-elected. Mr Baxter resigned owing to ill-health and Mr J. Stanley was elected in his stead.



A life membership was conferred upon Mr Baxter and expressions of appreciation of his services made by several shareholders.

The meeting concluded with a vote of sympathy being passed to Councillor G. Taylor in his illness and hopes of a speedy recovery expressed.

Five More Players Signed

Nuneaton Association Football Club has gone a step further in its team-building activities and has secured the signatures of five more players who will appear in the Birmingham League side this coming season. The five players are:

Bert Tinkler (23), an outside-left, who last season, was with Loughborough Corinthians. He was one of the leading goalscorers in the Midland League.

Bert Mann (25), who comes from Derby County and Manchester United. He, too, is an inside forward.

Alfred Nelson (23), and inside-left from Luton Town. Last season he scored 36 goals in League games, and played in all his side's English Cup ties.

Ben Wannacott (24) another inside forward from Northampton Town and Mansfield Town. Last season he represented the Irish Free State League in an international game with Wales.

Stanley Martin (19), a centre-forward who was formerly with Stockport County and who turned out regularly last season in the Central League side.

An attractive programme of games has been arranged which includes a Christmas Day match at Manor Park against Cradley Heath and Easter holiday engagements with Oakengates and Burton Town.

1933-34

First Trial Match

There was a wealth of local talent on view at Manor Park on Saturday when the football season opened in Nuneaton with a junior practice match to decide the eleven to represent the Town Club in the second division of the Coventry and North Warwickshire League. There was a disappointing attendance, but those who were present were well satisfied with the promising display shown, and although the game, as could hardly be expected, did not produce anything like finished form, the club should find little difficulty in fielding a junior side capable of upholding the best traditions of the club... The Red and Whites defeated the Blue and Whites with comparative ease by six goals to one...

...The Red and Whites included no less than seven players with Birmingham Combination experience. Pearson, at

outside-right, is a Stockingford Allotment Association player who has had a trial with West Bromwich Albion. Charlie Higham did well at inside-right. Cooper, who last season played for Griff Colliery, made a good showing at centre-forward and scored three goals. Sparrow made frequent appearances in the Combination last season, and Bayliss, a Hartshill youth, may benefit from expert tuition and played a splendid game on the left wing.

Lillycrop, Taylor and Boyd all have Birmingham Combination experience, with the former playing for Atherstone Town last season being the best half-back on show. Boyd, Taylor and Morris all assisted Nuneaton last season. Cobley is a left full-back from Countesthorpe, while the centre-half, Allen, is a Birmingham Works League player.

The Red and Whites played well to a man and even with the inclusion of Brookes in the Blue and Whites' defence, they struggled to hold the opposing attack...

...Jones (Hereford Town), Blythe (Birmingham Works League) and Irons (Hinckley United) formed the middle line of the Blues side in the first half with Holloway (Birmingham Works League) taking Irons' place in the second half. Davenport, a Coventry youth, scored his team's only goal and generally gave a good showing. Inside-forwards Hardy and Banks, are both local boys. Jenkins was a very fast right wing player, but he could not finish his movements.

Teams (second-half changes in brackets): Red and Whites: Morris, Taylor and Cobley; Lillicrop, Allen and Boyd (Judson); Pearson, Higham, Cooper, Sparrow and Bayliss.

Blue and Whites: Haywood; Knight (Drakeley) and Brookes; Irons (Holloway), Blythe and Jones; Bishop (Jenkins), Hardy, Davenport, Banks and Miles.

Second Trial Match

As is not infrequent in such matches, the reserve eleven defeated the first eleven in Nuneaton's second trial match at Manor Park last night when a sparse attendance was treated to their first glimpse of the majority of the new full-time professional players who will compose the town club's Birmingham Senior League side.

The Red and Whites won by three goals to one over the Blue and Whites. It was a mixed grill that was served up – the play did not reach any great heights, but simply served as a muscle loosener for the players and to provide them with their first opportunity of practising as a complete unit...

...George Carr, the player-manager, gave a magnificent showing in the first-half, but cooled off towards the finish. He proved himself skilful at ball control and his perfect forward passes were a delight to the eyes. McKenna, the ex-Leicester goalkeeper ran Carr a close second, giving a brilliant exhibition of keeping. Jones, a stocky little fellow, full of grit, was the best wing half-back on the field. He proved that lack of inches is no disparagement when one is possessed of cleverness and pluck.



On their showing Tinklin and Wannacott should make an effective left-wing pair. The former possesses a good turn of speed, is very forceful, and can centre well. The latter is a heavier built player, but nimble and plays well to either centre-forward or extreme winger. It was unfortunate that Nelson should sustain a slight knee injury which necessitated him leaving the field shortly after the interval. He is the bustling type of forward with plenty of football knowledge, and with Pick should prove a dangerous man. Mann, who was less effective and inclined to miss the many opportunities with which he was provided.

Martin, lately of Stockport County, was expected to turn out at centre-forward, but was unable to do so and in the first-half Mann appeared in that position, but was very weak. In the second half White took over and distinguished himself by scoring a second goal. In the reserve side Irons was the best half-back and Bayliss and Pearson the best forwards...

Blue and Whites: Morris; Bradford and Brookes; Jones, Carr and Brindley; Heath, Nelson, Mann, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Red and Whites: McKenna; Taylor and Cobley; Irons, Drakeley and Sparrow; Pearson, Higham, White, Hardy and Bayliss.

Final Trial Match

Nuneaton's final trial game on Saturday afternoon, failed to produce the satisfaction the spectators desired and at the end of 90 minutes, there remained considerable doubt in all minds as to the players who will constitute the eleven to meet Brierley Hill...

...McKenna is absolutely certain of his place between the posts. He was never at fault and his crowning achievement was the saving of a penalty kick. He had the credit of leaving the field unbeaten. Brookes can be relied on to retain his position at left full-back. It is the right full-back position which may cause the club selectors to worry. Bradford (Hull City and Walsall) was an absentee on Saturday and while it is most likely that he will occupy this position, his display in the previous trial left much to be desired.

There is no lack of talent for the wing-half positions. As player-manager George Carr has a great weight of responsibility upon his shoulders and he is not unmindful of the fact. He is out to field the best team from the players at his disposal. He may encounter some difficulty in choosing the wing halves. Brindley, Jones, Irons, Lillycrop and Armory are the four from which he must make his choice. Brindley and Irons played either side of him last Saturday and both played a good game. Lillycrop appeared in a previous trial and showed himself quite as good. Armory, a former member of the Ayr United and Aldershot clubs, has been signed by the club, but has not yet played and he may win a wing position.

Tinklin and Wannacott are assured of filling the outside and inside-left positions respectively. Tinklin was the best forward on Saturday and his partner ran him a close second. Mann was a little more effective than in the previous trial, but is

unlikely to oust Nelson from the inside-right position. Pick was given a hearty welcome on his return and he treated the crowd to some splendid movements...

...Only one position in the senior eleven was filled by an amateur, with Taylor coming in at right full-back instead of Bradford. The juniors were well beaten by five goals to nil...

Blue and Whites: McKenna; Taylor and Brookes; Irons, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Mann, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Red and Whites: Morris; Knight and Cobley (Cooper); Heath, Wright and Marshall; Pearson, Higham, Dewis, Sparrow and Bayliss.

Nuneaton Town v Brierley Hill Alliance 26-08-1933

Nuneaton: McKenna; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Armory, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Brierley Hill: J. Collins; J. White and Davis; Devonport, Wakeman and Blunt; W. Slater, H. Brettell, Casswell, York and R. Adey.

Nuneaton welcomed Brierley Hill Alliance to Manor Park for the first Birmingham League fixture of the 1933-34 season. There were 4,500 spectators at the game.

Nuneaton's display did not give cause for any marked degree of satisfaction. Although they showed some improvement in the second half their team play never approached the Brierley Hill standard. It was spasmodic individualism and the brilliant work of Teddy Pick that gained them a surprising victory against a better team.

The genuine team spirit prevailed in the Brierley Hill ranks and only twelve minutes had elapsed when they took the lead. Devonport registered the goal and his quick return found McKenna unprepared after the latter had only just punched clear from Adey. This early reverse unnerved Nuneaton, or so it appeared, and their subsequent efforts were sadly lacking in direction. Their work at close range was utterly ineffective although many opportunities were provided by Pick on the right wing. Brierley were much superior in their approach work but they were met by a strong defence in which the alert McKenna figured prominently.

It was a brilliant piece of individualism which provided Nuneaton with the equalising goal 12 minutes after the interval. Throughout the first half Pick, who was responsible for the all-important point, had shown himself to be a vastly improved player from last year. He was nippy and clever in his work, and a powerful shot. In crowning his achievement of the first-half he made a spectacular run of at least 40 yards to beat all opposition, draw Collins from his goal, and put the ball into an empty net. He almost accomplished a similar feat within the next minute when he again ran through on his own but chose to centre instead of completing his own move.

The players were no doubt affected by the sweltering conditions and the play in the second half was not quite so fast, although it was in this half that the spectators were provided with the majority of thrills. The ball travelled swiftly



from end to end and the result remained in the balance until the last three minutes when Armory won his spurs by scoring the winning goal. Wildly excited with their success, the Nuneaton team attacked again, and it was in the last minute that an incident occurred which led to a penalty being awarded against the visitors.

Tinklin and Brierley Hill's White contested possession of the ball and as the latter cleared, he deliberately fouled the Nuneaton winger. Tinklin replied and in the space of a few seconds the two players were kicking each other's shins and would undoubtedly have come to blows if they had not been separated. The referee had no option but to award the penalty but in the excitement of the last few thrilling moments Wannacott shot completely wide of the posts.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 28-08-1933

Nuneaton: McKenna; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Armory and Brindley; Pick, Higham, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Charity Cup.

In the first half Nuneaton were in complete possession of the ball, so much so that Hinckley were only dangerous on two occasions, once when Tilbury headed inches over the crossbar and a second time when McKenna made a faulty clearance and Varnham all but succeeded in turning the ball into the net.

The Hinckley defenders were completely at sea and guilty of many blunders, but the Nuneaton front line men failed signally to profit by the easy scoring chances offered them by such mistakes. Pick took matters more easily than he did in the previous match and he was overshadowed by the improved display of Tinklin on the left wing. The latter's dash and pace disconcerted the opposing defenders and put them completely off the game.

Only eleven minutes had elapsed before Nuneaton's superior tactics brought them reward when Wannacott sent the forwards away and White took advantage of a faulty clearance by Campton to send the ball into the net with a fast drive.

Nuneaton remained aggressive, but their best efforts were insufficient to break through the iron defence of Buck, and it was not until a quarter of an hour before the interval that they added to their lead after having kept up a continuous siege of the Hinckley goal. White registered the goal by charging the ball into the net after Buck had failed to hold a fast drive from Brindley.

Hinckley improved after the break and for 20 minutes they fought hard to recover lost ground. Five minutes after the interval, however, Nuneaton took advantage of a momentary wavering in the visitors' defence and scored their third goal through Pick. Hinckley fought back with energy and determination and a period of hard work was crowned with success when Oughton raced through on his own to beat all opposition and net his team's first and only goal.

It was a last despairing effort and having shot their bolt, Hinckley finished as they started, on the defensive. They did manage to keep their goal intact though, despite further efforts from a stronger and better combined opponent. The Nuneaton defence held the upper hand throughout the game and kept the Hinckley attack in submission, giving a full measure of support to their own forwards, who appeared to do everything but score, except on three occasions.

Oakengates v Nuneaton Town

04-09-1933

Nuneaton: McKenna; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Armory and Brindley; Bayliss, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton Town visited Oakengates on Monday for their second Birmingham League fixture of the season.

Town accomplished a fine feat by defeating the home side by three goals to one. Town were without the services of Pick, who was unable to play, but his place was ably filled by Bayliss.

Although Oakengates opened aggressively, Nuneaton proved themselves to be the superior side. Their defence arose to the occasion, Bradford giving a considerably improved display, his positioning being excellent.

Nuneaton took the lead after 30 minutes through White, but just before the interval Oakengates equalised, Higgs scoring from a penalty.

In the second half, Nuneaton were on top, the good effects of their training being apparent. They had their opponents on the run, and played capital football. Brindley scored two goals for the visitors in the second half, one being from a free-kick. The half-backs kept well up and fed the forwards, whilst the inside-forwards fetched the ball and fed their wings.

Nuneaton Town v Wellington Town

09-09-1933

Nuneaton: McKenna; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Carr and Armory; Pick, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Wellington Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture. The game was watched by 5,000 spectators. There was a strong wind and the pitch was baked as hard as iron.

In the first half the visitors were slightly the better team, but their chief fault was a lack of shooting power. Nuneaton, with fewer opportunities, showed better form in front of goal and were unfortunate when a number of hard shots struck the crossbar and upright. After 39 minutes, however, their patience was rewarded when Wannacott snapped up a chance and bundled the ball into the net after the keeper had thrown away from Pick. The only other shot of the half which appeared likely to find the net was a fast rising drive from White, but Malkin made a glorious save.

When the game was resumed after the interval, Nuneaton called the tune and Wannacott's opportunism was responsible for that player adding to Nuneaton's lead two



minutes after the interval. Pick supplied the necessary pass which found Malkin out of position and the inside-left had only to touch into an empty net.

Nuneaton maintained the offensive but frequent stoppages for infringements robbed the play of much of its attractiveness. The approach work of the home forwards was without reproach, but they took advantage of but few opportunities and altogether there was a dearth of good shots. Wellington rarely gave trouble and when they did reach the Nuneaton end they were met by a strong and capable defence that was more than their match. For some considerable time it was all Nuneaton, with Malkin as harassed as five lively go-ahead forwards could make him.

Returning to the attack in the closing minutes, Shakeshaft scored his team's only goal of the match, with the Nuneaton defenders all at sea. Wellington failed in a last despairing attempt to share the points.

Considering the adverse weather conditions the form displayed by both teams was of a high standard. Nuneaton have not played better this season. Chief credit for their victory should go to Pick who, although he fell away towards the end, laid the foundations of victory by keeping the play open and rarely wasting an opportunity, besides supplying Wannacott with the two scoring chances.

Nuneaton Town v Darlaston

11-09-1933

Nuneaton: McKenna; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Darlaston to Manor Park on Monday evening for a Birmingham Senior Cup first round tie. There were over 2000 spectators.

Nuneaton started the game with ten men, but their first real attack brought immediate results, as Smith was forced to concede a corner and from the kick Nelson gave the home team the lead by turning the ball into the net. Lidsey could only help the ball in. Pick came on to make up the home side to full strength and the game turned completely in Town's favour, and after 19 minutes, Wannacott added to the lead after Pick had struck the crossbar and the ball had rebounded to the feet of the inside-left who, with Lidsey completely out of position, had merely to touch the ball into an open goal.

White should have scored a third goal a few minutes later had he elected to shoot when favourably placed rather than pass to a fellow forward who was immediately given offside. The ensuing play was contested in a desultory manner with Nuneaton content to hold on to their lead. However, they were caught unprepared after 40 minutes when a Darlaston attack culminated in Perry sending in a terrific drive which beat McKenna all the way.

Nuneaton added a third goal with their first attack of the second half, when White scored with a perfect header from Wannacott's centre. Twelve minutes later Nuneaton added a

fourth, again through White, who again headed in, this time from Tinklin's centre.

There was little in the remaining play worthy of note except Darlaston's second goal which Yates scored with five minutes to go. The goal was well merited for the winger had striven desperately hard throughout the second half to reduce the arrears for his side and it was good to see his own individual pluck and determination rewarded.

Nuneaton Town v Kidderminster Harriers 23-09-1933

Nuneaton: McKenna; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Kidderminster Harriers to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. There was a crowd of 4,000.

Nuneaton started well. Their forwards worked deftly and with speed and the Kidderminster defenders were not at all happy. There was a lack of understanding between Blake and Clansey of which Pick took advantage when he shot up out of the blue to meet a forward pass from the left, which he headed into the far corner of the net.

Then came a period when Kidderminster reversed the play and their attacks found the Nuneaton defence at sea. Bradford was guilty of many blunders which, happily for Town, were not followed by serious consequences, as Brookes was on top form and covered the mistakes of his partner.

Towards the end of the first-half, however, Nuneaton kept play in the Kidderminster half and time and time again were unlucky when shots either struck the upright or crossbar and rebounded into play again, or missed the goal by inches. The home forwards simply toyed with the opposition, and did everything but score.

Nuneaton went further ahead 12 minutes after the interval when Pick secured possession of the ball from a scrimmage near the Kidderminster goal and pushed it forward to Wannacott and the inside forward hooked the ball over the goalkeeper's head as he ran out, into an untenanted net.

Bradford was obviously at fault when the visitors scored 28 minutes after the interval. Instead of kicking clear, he chose to head the ball straight on to Macfarlane's foot and the centre-forward touched the ball to Kirkham for the latter to beat McKenna with a terrific drive from long range.

Perkins was the hero of the Kidderminster side in the remaining play. With Nuneaton constantly on the offensive he made numerous clever saves from all angles and kept his goal intact in the face of a prolonged siege.

Tinklin was never more subdued. Every time he won possession he was handicapped by the strict attentions of Blake and Birch and consequently was of little service. Wannacott played a hard game and White was much in evidence. Nelson was moderate, but the visitors never knew what the elusive Pick would do next. Bradford was the only

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weak link in Nuneaton's otherwise strong chain of defence. McKenna's blunders of the previous game were quickly forgotten as the keeper brought off some magnificent saves.

Bangor City v Nuneaton Town 27-09-1933

Nuneaton: McKenna; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Carr and Brindley; Mann, Nelson, Dewis, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the long journey to face Bangor City on Wednesday, in the Birmingham League.

The visitors were unlucky in losing inasmuch as up to the last ten minutes of the game they held a lead of two goals to one and seemed certain winners, but Bangor staged a remarkable rally and in less than six minutes had scored three goals to give them a convincing lead. Up to this point Nuneaton had been slightly superior to their opponents and their sudden relapse is difficult, if not impossible to explain.

They took a weakened team which included Mann at outside-right in place of Pick, whose attendance at business prevents his appearance in most mid-week matches, and Dewis from the Reserves at centre-forward for White. Irons came in at right-half for Armory.

Nuneaton received a rude shock in the first four minutes when Arthur Davies found the net for Bangor. McKenna was at fault in running out and failing to gather the ball. In the ensuing play, Nuneaton were seen to better advantage and were distinctly unfortunate when several shots struck either the crossbar or uprights, but with 12 minutes to go before half-time, Tinklin, who was by far the most dangerous forward on the field, secured the equaliser for Nuneaton

Early in the second half the home side were awarded a penalty for handball, but Buxton hit the post from the spot and the ball was cleared. Nuneaton took the lead ten minutes after the interval when Tinklin gathered the ball from a pass and flashed it back into the net and until a few minutes from time were attacking, when the unexpected happened and Bangor found the net on three occasions in six minutes. Dewar (2) and Parry were the scorers.

Nuneaton Town v Aston Villa A 30-09-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Aston Villa A to Manor Park for a Leamington Hospital Cup semi-final. The Villa side contained several players who last season, played in the First Division, including Tommy Smart, the ex-England international full-back, and were markedly superior to the home side.

There were few thrills in a moderate first-half and a singular lack of front-of-goal moments. Neither goalkeeper was seriously extended and for the most part play was confined to midfield. There was more science in the visitors' performance than in Nuneaton's, but even they were lacking in the

necessary finish, and sound approach work came to nought against the strenuous efforts of the Nuneaton defence, in which Brookes always figured prominently. At the interval there was no score and except on little more than two occasions, neither team appeared to carry sufficient "guns" to register a goal.

When the game was resumed the Villa made a change in their forward line which immediately brought them reward, for Stevenson and Dean broke through the Nuneaton defence and the former gave his team the lead with a fast drive that gave Berry no chance, just a minute after the break. Five minutes later the same players again carried out the same movements and Stevenson registered a second goal with a fast, rising shot which crashed into the net with terrific force.

Nuneaton had been caught napping by the unusual quickness of the two movements, but for the remainder of the game they maintained a more careful watch and it is to their credit that no further opportunity was given away. Nuneaton certainly had the better of the latter play but beyond Tinklin hitting the crossbar and Pick sending wide by inches, they were never able to make any impression on the Villa defence.

Among the Nuneaton forwards, Pick was the only one to give the Villa defenders any cause to worry. Nelson was distinctly below form and White received such poor support that he was at no time dangerous. Wannacott hung back too far and Tinklin had never been so subdued. Carr found it impossible to get his forwards working, but worked hard defensively. Brindley was the only one to disregard Smart's prowess, but in playing so far forward, left Ette with a clear field.

Nuneaton Town v Rhyl Athletic 07-10-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Rhyl Athletic to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture. There was a crowd of 4,000.

Nuneaton received a shock in the first minute when their visitors swept down the field and in quick succession Berry saved first from Chambers and then Dixon at full-length, and then again from Chambers, but when they settled down, Town took the lead on eight minutes when Armory sent Pick away on the right and the latter returned the ball to the centre for Nelson to meet it with his head and direct it into the net. It was a brilliant move and revealed what Pick is capable of.

Town's success was short-lived, however, for three minutes later Carr had the misfortune to handle in the penalty area and Flanagan scored from the spot-kick. Both goals were visited during the ensuing play of which both Nuneaton and Rhyl had an equal share. The heavy ground made ball control a little difficult, but the players surmounted this well and the game proceeded at a fast pace. Fairhurst defended his charge with great skill and when he made a magnificent save from Carr, he was cheered by all sections of the crowd. Rhyl made poor use

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of a free-kick a few yards outside the Town goal and Chambers shot straight at Berry when the keeper ran out to challenge his possession of the ball. Brookes was injured five minutes before the interval and played the rest of the match at outside-left.

The visitors got the ball in just previous to the interval but the goal was disallowed for offside, although there was some doubt as to whether the referee was justified in giving the decision. He refused to alter his mind even though the Rhyl forwards repeatedly clamoured for a goal.

Despite the injury to Brookes, Nuneaton came out for the second half in confident mood, and ten minutes after the break, Pick again sent across a perfect centre for Brookes to head through and with 15 minutes to go, Tinklin scored a brilliant goal. From that point Nuneaton assumed control of the game and ran out winners by three goals to one.

Cannock Town v Nuneaton Town 14-10-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Nelson, Dewis, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the journey to Cannock Town for a Birmingham League fixture.

The match opened tamely and Cannock were first to attack, but Armory and Brookes repelled them and the ball was taken to the other end where Thrupp made a risky clearance from Dewis. Berry saved magnificently from Stokes and when the visitors replied they were given a taste of their own medicine when progressing well, they were pulled up for offside on several occasions. Dewis was working tremendously hard to please and he provided Wannacott with a favourable opening, but the inside-left shot wide.

The Nuneaton inside-forwards were lacking when Tinklin shot across the mouth of the goal and it appeared that they could do anything but score. A repeated siege of the Cannock goal failed to reap the desired reward and then much again the run of play Cannock took the lead 20 minutes after the start when Warrilow worked his own opening and beat Berry with a splendid drive. A second goal eight minutes later was the outcome of a scramble for possession in front of the Nuneaton goal. Stokes secured possession and drove it into the net.

Nuneaton had only themselves to blame for, having missed several chances, especially when Dewis shot wide with the goal at his mercy. Nuneaton missed a penalty when Tinklin's effort struck the post and rebounded back into play, but with three minutes to go before the interval, Wannacott reduced the arrears for Nuneaton by hooking the ball into the net.

When the game was resumed, Dewis was on the left-wing with Tinklin inside and Wannacott in the centre, and after a rather scrappy restart, Nuneaton equalised three minutes after half-time through Pick, who shot from the wing to beat Thrupp all the way. The ground had been churned into a veritable field of mud and water and players on both sides had difficulty in controlling the ball.

Nuneaton gradually fell away and Cannock, taking up the running, pressed to advantage, but were lucky when Brookes unfortunately deflected the ball into his own goal to give the home team the lead for the second time. A period of doubtful play followed and the referee had recourse to caution several players and then with only four minutes to go Galley made the issue safe for Cannock by scoring his team's fourth goal. Before the final whistle Pick was injured and had to be assisted from the field.

Nuneaton Town v Oswestry

21-10-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Carr and Brindley; Armory, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Oswestry to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture.

Armory proved an able deputy for Pick and worked many openings. Early on when Nuneaton were pressing most of the time, he was always prominent, but attempted to do too much on his own, but he caused a thrill when he ran through the defence and shot straight at Bennett from a sharp angle. White also gave promise of improved form and in the first minute only missed by inches on two occasions.

Oswestry only attacked spasmodically but were generally dangerous and Sambrook was unlucky when he headed just wide of the upright from a corner. It was, however, much against the run of play when after 22 minutes, Thomas sent out a forward pass to Jones, who cleverly outmanoeuvred Brookes and beat Berry with a superb shot to give his team the lead. As the game progressed Nuneaton were mainly the aggressors, but goals failed to come their way until six minutes from half-time when a hectic few minutes provided sufficient thrills for any afternoon.

In that brief period, Bennett was twice beaten but he showed remarkable agility and anticipatory power in dealing with countless shot which were rained in on him. He seemed to bear a charmed existence. A goal seemed imminent, but it was unfortunate for the keeper that in diving full-length to bring off a magnificent save from Wannacott, he should punch the ball to Amory, who immediately flashed it back into the net before Bennett could recover. Just before the interval the keeper was again unlucky in stepping back over the line when saving from Nelson, who headed towards goal from out of a ruck of players. The referee was in such a position as to be able to witness the keeper's move and he had no hesitation in awarding the goal.

Two further goals were scored within six minutes of the restart, after three minutes by Tinklin, who netted with a first-time shot after receiving from Armory and after six minutes by Rogers, who cut in from the Oswestry right to beat two men and finish a good solo effort by crashing the ball into the net. This ended the scoring, but in the ensuing play, Nuneaton were unquestionably the better side. They were invincible in

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midfield, but failed miserably in front of goal and when they did shoot for the mark, Bennett was always ready to deal with the best of their efforts.

Port Vale Reserves v Nuneaton Town 28-10-1933

Port Vale: Thomas; Allsopp and Breeze; Davies, Round and Twiss; Baker, Mitcheson, Armitage, Challenger and Webster.

Nuneaton: Andrews; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Irons, Nelson, Dewis, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton travelled to Hanley to take on Port Vale Reserves in a Birmingham League encounter. The home team were unbeaten in the league.

Dewis' goal for Nuneaton after only five minutes' play provoked great enthusiasm among the few visiting supporters and it must have been as bitter a disappointment to the Nuneaton players, as to their supporters, when Challenger equalised immediately after. These were the only goals scored in the first half, during which Nuneaton played sparkling football. Port Vale's defenders on the whole were equal to their opponents, but in attack the forwards were not so clever and their finishing not so good. The Town seemed able to find their men with greater ease. In Nelson and Dewis they had two players who gave Port Vale quite a lot of trouble.

The latter played a heroic game and on two occasions during the latter stages of the first half narrowly missed scoring when he just failed to get his foot to the ball as Carr swung it across to him and again when Tinklin centred and the centre-forward made an unavailing attempt to force his way through.

In the second half Nuneaton emphasised their superiority by taking the ball repeatedly into the Port Vale goal area. Ten minutes after the interval Nelson gave them the lead for a second time and in doing so proved how clever an opportunist he is. Nuneaton's intermediate line dominated the play and it was mainly due to its initiative that the forwards found so many opportunities open to them. Nelson put the issue beyond doubt when he increased Nuneaton's lead five minutes from the close.

Carr had as much to do with his team's victory as anyone. He was the brains behind many of Nuneaton's attacking moves and when Port Vale came back into the game half-way through the second half, he was superb and inspired his defence. When Dewis has chance to settle down, he should be invaluable to Nuneaton. The three halves were all-powerful, while Brookes and Bradford were resolute defenders when the Port Vale attack was in full swing.

Burton Town v Nuneaton Town 04-11-1933

Nuneaton: McKenna; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Irons, Nelson, Dewis, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the journey to Burton Town for a Birmingham Senior Cup second round tie.

The first half saw Nuneaton trailing 1-0 at the break, following

a goal from Wilkie after 32 minutes, when he walked through Nuneaton's defence, drew out McKenna and shot into an empty net. Burton, admittedly, had had more than an equal share of the play, but Nuneaton were never down, although they had to exert tremendous energy to make even slight headway. The first 45 minutes gave no indication of the rush of goals to be scored after the interval.

Six of the seven goals were registered in the second half, but not before the home side had established a lead of three goals did the game seem hopeless for Nuneaton. Burton scored their second goal before Nuneaton replied through Tinklin 17 minutes after the break, but afterwards it was all Burton and the home side added to their lead through Reay on 68 minutes and seven minutes later Boswell scored. The latter scored again in the 87th minute, with both his goals coming from Wilkie centres.

McKenna was responsible for several of Burton's simple goals, but has not yet recovered from a head injury incurred against Kidderminster and is still complaining of giddiness. It would have been better to play a reserve keeper. Brookes was much the better of the two backs with Bradford indulging in much wild kicking, particularly when under pressure. Dewis failed through lack of support.

Burton are improving, in team work and balance and impressed in this game by their excellent understanding in all departments. The forwards were clever, fast-moving and virile and their defenders were powerful and sure.

Oswestry v Nuneaton Town 11-11-1933

Nuneaton: Morris; Bradford and Brookes; Nelson, Carr and Armory; Pearson, White, Dewis, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the journey to Oswestry for a Birmingham League fixture. Reserve team keeper Morris replaced McKenna and Nelson was brought in a right-half. Carr was centre-half and Armory left-half instead of Brindley, who is ill. Pearson, formerly of the Reserves, but now with Haunchwood Institute, displaced Irons at outside-right and White appeared at inside-right.

Early in the game Nuneaton gave promise of what was to come when Dewis took advantage of a splendid opening and crashed the ball into the net to give Nuneaton the lead after only ten minutes' play. Nuneaton were booting the ball to good purpose and Carr and Tinklin were very much in evidence whenever the town attacked, although the finishing of the forwards left much to be desired. It was somewhat against the run of play when Rogers equalised for the home team after 25 minutes with a shot which gave Morris no chance. Within five minutes, Nuneaton went ahead for a second time when White was the scorer and ten minutes later the same player added a third.

Before the interval Nuneaton were continually on the attack and the much worried Oswestry defence had a great deal



to contend with in quelling the fast and clever movements initiated by a strong Nuneaton half-back line. Carr scored a sensational fourth goal, some ten minutes before the interval, when he took a free-kick from well outside the Oswestry penalty area and landed the ball into the top corner of the net.

In the second half, Nuneaton did not have quite so much of the play although there were many movements in which they took part which with greater accuracy in shooting and in passing might well have resulted in goals. Bennett found plenty to do and in the space of a few moments had to tip over from Pearson and clear from Wannacott. Armory created a number of well-schemed movements and his work was brought to a successful conclusion when Pearson secured on the wing and cut in to shoot and score with a magnificent drive 68 minutes after the start. White, Wannacott and Carr were prominent in the closing stages of the game, when Nuneaton had matters all their own way.

George Dewis Signs For Leicester

Leicester City on Friday evening signed on professional forms George Dewis, a 21-year-old centre-forward from Nuneaton Town. Dewis has attracted the attention of several League clubs and Aston Villa, Manchester City and Birmingham were anxious to obtain his signature.

Dewis, who is 5ft. 10in. and weighs 11st. 8lbs., has been with Nuneaton for about 18 months, and has some good goalscoring feats to his credit.

He only signed professional forms for Nuneaton on the previous Monday. Before joining Nuneaton, Dewis played for Stoke Golding. Dewis played for Leicester City Reserves at centre-forward against Bournemouth Reserves at Filbert Street, on Saturday afternoon.

He acquitted himself well and found favour with Leicester supporters. He was directly involved in the scoring of his new team's second goal, as it was from his header that Gurry scored. Dewis also had the distinction of scoring Leicester City Reserves' fifth goal when he dashed forward to take a pass from Lockhead, and as the goalkeeper advanced headed the ball literally through his hands.

Nuneaton Town v WBA

18-11-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Nelson, Carr and Armory; Pearson, Brindley, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed West Bromwich Albion to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Hospital Cup.

In the first few minutes when West Bromwich were well away, they were pulled up for offside, but in the next attack, Whitehead beat all opposition, drew Berry out of his goal, and then shot at least a yard wide. It was a glorious chance

missed. At the other end Pearson send across a perfect centre, but White missed the ball when a goal seemed likely. Thus the forwards made their failings apparent in the early moments. The visitors' centre-forward, however, caused a thrill when he sent in a terrific drive which Berry failed to hold but recovered to grasp the ball a second time before it rolled over the line.

Jones was injured in shooting and had to leave the field for attention. He was away for a lengthy period and when he returned, he played on the right wing. Nuneaton opened the scoring after 34 minute when Tinklin, Wannacott and White successfully evaded the opposition and the latter scored with a shot which completely deceived Adams. This success was but brief, for five minutes later West Bromwich equalised through Mosley, after the inside-forward had received the ball from Coen.

Early in the second half White missed another sitter, and even when Adams dropped the ball in the goalmouth the Nuneaton forwards were too slow to take advantage of such an easy scoring opportunity. Jones was unlucky for the visitors when he cut in and hit the upright with a smashing drive. Towards the close Nuneaton rallied splendidly and attacked repeatedly, scoring through White ten minutes from the end and Wannacott four minutes before the whistle. With just a minute to go, West Bromwich replied when Whitehead beat Berry with a fast low drive.

Nuneaton Town v Worcester City

25-11-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Brookes and Cobley; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Worcester City to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. Teddy Pick received a warm welcome when he returned after five weeks out injured.

Worcester shone in the first ten minutes, but their opening goal after 18 minutes came as a surprise to all. Berry was unable to hold a low drive from Hair and as he pushed the ball away to his right, King rushed in from the left and returned the ball across the centre for Parle to head into an empty net.

The next incident of note was Nuneaton's equalising goal after 18 minutes. Pick secured on the right and after covering some ground he returned the ball into the centre. White was favourably placed, but chose to let the ball run through his legs to Wannacott, who beat Wright with a ground drive from a good range. Once on level terms, Nuneaton did not mean to lose regained ground and immediately set up another fast attack which ended in White beating Wright in a race for possession and touching the ball away from the keeper and just over the line before a defender got his foot to the ball.

Ten minutes before the interval, Nuneaton's third goal was scored by Wannacott with a first-time effort from a corner kick taken by Pick. It was a lucky goal, but in this instance the shot came off.



Carr initiated Nuneaton's next scoring effort immediately after the interval when he sent across to the left and Wannacott gathered the ball and returned it to the centre for White to meet it and the net with a great drive. Worcester replied with zest, but their Scottish international centre-forward, Hair, was unable to set his men going. A Nuneaton attack 14 minutes after the interval saw Wright injured in a collision with White. The custodian had to leave the field for attention and while he was away Higham saved twice from Wannacott and Nelson.

Fourteen minutes from time, Nuneaton secured their fifth and final goal through Tinklin, who converted a perfect pass from Nelson. To the end Nuneaton had little difficulty in countering the Worcester attacks.

Shortly before half-time the referee took the unusual step of calling all 22 players to him and issued a stern warning regarding their behaviour. The play after the warning was not marred as much as previously.

In addition to Cobby and Pick, Brookes, Carr, Armory and Nelson are deserving of commendation for sterling displays in the Nuneaton side. White continues to improve, but Tinklin was well off form. Wannacott worked tremendously hard.

Stourbridge v Nuneaton Town 02-12-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pearson, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the journey to Stourbridge for a Birmingham League fixture.

With the wind and the slope in their favour, the home side were mainly the attackers in the first half, but the stolid Nuneaton defence was more than their match except when Hillman flashed across a centre after ten minutes for Garbett to secure the ball and after fumbling his first attempt, he sent in a smashing drive which struck the underside of the crossbar before entering the net.

Berry showed superb judgment in dealing with the remaining shots that came his way and the full-backs and half-backs put in some good work in repelling the fast advances of the Stourbridge forwards. Whenever Nuneaton attacked, they did so by good passing movements which only broke down when the penalty area was reached.

Nuneaton held the advantage throughout the second half, and Stourbridge had Owen, their keeper and captain, to thank for maintaining their lead. The Nuneaton attack, though well-supported by the half-backs, played without skill or craft and generally when a chance did come their way, shot either weakly or erratically. Nelson gave the best exhibition, but he could accomplish little without support. Tinklin sent across any amount of good centres, but here again his best work was nullified by the failure of the inside and centre-forwards.

Carr's tactics have little to commend them for he spoils solid and constructive movements by the regularity with which

he comes to the referee's attention. He must not expect to get away with it too often for sooner or later he will receive marching orders. Armory was a strong half-back and Brookes gave a magnificent display at full-back.

The game was marred, as the previous week's match at Manor Park had been, by a series of infringements and consequently interruptions for which Nuneaton were principally to blame and they raised the ire of the spectators to such an extent that at the end of the game they made an unpleasant demonstration against George Carr, Town's player-manager.

Nuneaton Town v Colwyn Bay 09-12-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Lawrence, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Colwyn Bay to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match.

Nuneaton spent much time in getting the measure of their opponents, but gradually and mainly by reason of Tinklin's initiative on the left they began to make some impression and after 26 minutes, Tinklin sent across a perfect pass for Nelson to give Town the lead.

Four minutes later the extreme left winger was directly concerned in Nuneaton's second goal for it was again from his pass that White scored. With the visiting defence completely subdued, Nuneaton pressed home their advantage, and with two minutes to go to the interval White met another of Tinklin's centres in mid-air and directed it with tremendous force into the net. Apart from the fact that the Bay had been kept on the defensive more or less, Nuneaton's superiority was clearly defined.

Throughout the second half Nuneaton slackened. They had done what they wanted. Colwyn Bay were seen to a little better advantage, but they were never really a menace, and scarcely reached the Nuneaton goal.

The Nuneaton forward line executed several brilliant moves up to the penalty area but after getting there, they finished moderately. Tinklin was brilliant on the left wing and showed the opposing defence a clean pair of heels, while his centres were perfectly placed, there were many of his passes which the inside forwards failed to take proper advantage of.

Lawrence, the reserve winger, was another who did many clever things on his first appearance in the senior eleven. He finished better than he started. White, at centre-forward, led the line with good judgment, but lacked confidence when he was near goal. He seems over-anxious when attempting a shot and sacrifices ball control for speed. The outstanding defender was Brookes, who showed first-class ability both in attack and defence. Berry in goal, did everything that was expected of him.

Town were given every opportunity to show their combination, for Colwyn Bay were much the inferior team and at no time did they cause the home team the slightest anxiety.



Wrexham Reserves v Nuneaton Town 16-12-1933

Wrexham: J. Bennion; Brown and Williams; Lawrence, Lewis and Richards; Sonakan, Findley, Jones, Fryer and Smallwood.

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Lawrence, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton travelled to The Racecourse Ground to face Wrexham in a Birmingham League match.

In the first ten minutes a couple of swift advances on a hesitating defence gave Fryer a perfect chance, but the Wrexham inside-left hit the upright and when Nuneaton replied Lewis all but put through his own goal in an attempt to clear Tinklin's centre. The Nuneaton left-wing man initiated most of Nuneaton's forward movements, but his centres failed to find their man, because Wrexham had a defence that was more than a match for the opposition forwards.

Wrexham took the lead after 25 minutes when Jones successfully carried through a solo effort and after eluding the Nuneaton defenders scored with a fast shot from close range. In the next few minutes Berry was subjected to a continual bombardment of shots, and after 35 minutes Fryer beat Brookes for the ball and added Wrexham's second goal. The same player registered his team's third goal only a minute later. The fourth goal came seven minutes from the interval when Jones again went through on his own, beat Brookes and Bradford and scored the best goal of the match. The home centre-forward found the net again, a second after the referee had blown for half-time.

Berry was responsible for a number of spectacular saves before Nuneaton eventually took up the running and Wannacott beat Bennion after receiving from Tinklin. They failed to retain even a momentary advantage and Wrexham replied with their fifth and final goal 24 minutes from time, with Sonakan the scorer. With six minutes to go, Tinklin scored from the wing.

In a general review of the game the one outstanding feature was Wrexham's fine team work. There was no apparent weakness anywhere. The trouble with Nuneaton is that they lack an inspiring leader. The forwards, with the possible exception of Tinklin, worked without imagination. Pick's continued absence is having its effect on the front line, for Lawrence, though a hard worker, is not to be compared with him. The halves were unable to support the front line to any degree of satisfaction, having to contend with a fast-moving and clever attack. Brookes and Bradford were overwhelmed, but Berry gave his best exhibition in goal.

It took Wrexham nearly half-an-hour to open the scoring, but that was chiefly because Berry, in the Nuneaton goal, made some wonderful saves and altogether he was not to blame for being beaten five times. A four goal lead at the interval no more than reflected Wrexham's superiority. Their forwards played with such speed and accuracy that even a bigger score would not have been surprising. A uniform attack was less effective in the second half, but the game was already won.

George Watson Signed

With Teddy Pick still being unfit and an important holiday fixture list to complete, Nuneaton Town have signed a new outside-right, George Watson.

Watson hails from Kent and is an England amateur international. He played with Charlton Athletic two seasons ago, and has since assisted Margate, in the Kent League.

Nuneaton Town v Hednesford 23-12-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Watson, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Hednesford to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. There was an attendance of around 3,000 on a bitterly cold day.

The first-half was of an even nature, and though the football was interesting, it was sadly lacking in thrills. Play alternated considerably, and each side in turn was responsible for smart attacking movements, few of which, however, presented any real danger owing to the excellent work of the defences.

As far as the visitors were concerned about the only chance worth mentioning before the interval came the way of Caddick, who was given responsibility for taking a penalty kick awarded against Bradford for a foul charge on Shakeshaft, but Berry made a magnificent full-length save, touching the ball around the post. It was a penalty awarded after 35 minutes for handball against Smith, who punched the ball out from under the bar, with which the home side took the lead, Nelson converting the spot-kick. The Nuneaton backs played with such judgment that the Hednesford forwards never sent in a single shot worthy of note before the change of ends.

There was a keen duel in the second half, but Nuneaton, if anything, showed the greater promise. They were certainly quicker and more effective in their passing. Several of the forwards had gift chances made for them close in, but they all failed badly when goals should have accrued. Tinklin, however, made no mistake with Nuneaton's second goal after 70 minutes, when he cut in to meet a pass from White and with a fast ground shot crashed the ball into the back of the net.

Hednesford replied less than ten minutes from the close, Caddick touching through following a scramble for possession in the mouth of the Nuneaton goal.

All through the match the defences were generally on top and some sparkling play was done by both rearguards. Carr and Brookes were dour workers for Nuneaton, but Brindley's ball distribution was unsound. Berry was always safe between the posts. Armory was in fine fettle and as an additional forward in the last 15 minutes, put in some fast work which merited a successful conclusion.

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Nuneaton Town v Cradley Heath 25-12-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Watson, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Cradley Heath to Manor Park on Christmas morning for a Birmingham League fixture.

Nuneaton pressed continuously on the Cradley defence, but have attacking weaknesses that prevents them turning their chances to good account. On Monday they were little improved from the previous game, although White, who many consider to be the weakest man in the front line, came out on top and found favour by his sharp shooting.

There were several minor injuries, sustained mostly by Town players. Bradford had to leave the field for attention to his left eye and Tinklin was also an absentee for some time while treatment was applied to a leg injury. For the major part of the game the outside-left was little better than a passenger.

In the earlier stages of the game the spectators were treated to some delightfully executed moves from Nuneaton. The right-wing pair were much in evidence and it was mainly as a result of an attack from that flank that Nuneaton opened the scoring after five minutes, when Armory, receiving from Watson, sent across a perfect centre for Wannacott to direct the ball into the net with his head.

For the first 20 minutes there was only one team playing. Town completely overwhelmed their visitors but although continuously on the attack, failed to register another goal during that time. Several scoring chances went begging, and towards the end of the first half the play veered round in the visitors' favour, but they found Berry alert. With only a minute to go before the interval, White was brought down in the penalty area and Nelson scored with a powerful drive.

Nuneaton were again the better side in the second half and after 52 minutes a shot at goal by Brindley was deflected off a defender to White, who netted his team's third and final goal of the match. Six minutes later Brindley had the misfortune to put through his own goal in an endeavour to clear from the visiting outside-right.

There was little interest in the remaining play for both teams appeared to have tired themselves out. Many spectators left before the end of the match.

Cradley Heath v Nuneaton Town 26-12-1933

Nuneaton: Berry; Brookes and Richards; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pearson, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton travelled to Cradley Heath on Boxing Day for the return Christmas holiday fixture.

After winning in comfortable style over the same opponents the previous day, Nuneaton fared badly and were the victims of a surprising defeat of five goals to one. One of the biggest crowds of the season saw a thrilling encounter at Dudley

Wood and the feature of the game was the opportunism of the home side's new leader Froggatt, who netted four of the goals. The fifth came from a penalty taken by Scott.

Wannacott registered Nuneaton's solitary goal. Both teams were well served by the half-backs, but the Nuneaton full-backs could not hold the thrustful home forwards. In defence Cradley were also too good for the Nuneaton forwards.

Hereford United v Nuneaton Town 30-12-1933

Hereford: Blakemore; Watson and Oliver; F. E. Taylor, Finney and Imbery; Hunt, Rooke, Rotton, F. Taylor and Hann.

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Watson, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton travelled to Hereford United for a Birmingham League game – the final fixture of 1933.

Nuneaton started the game at terrific speed and for fully 20 minutes Hereford were never seen in attack. Their defence, however, stood the strain of every attack stoutly and the Nuneaton forwards found themselves up against a formidable wall of resistance. The chief tacticians in the Nuneaton ranks were Tinklin and Wannacott. The inside and outside men seemed in their element and could do little wrong.

The all-important goal that gave Hereford the victory was scored scarcely three minutes after the interval when Hann, their outstanding forward, shot for goal and the ball was deflected by a defender into the net. It was a lucky break for the home side and the goal was much against the run of play.

Despite this deficit, Town were by no means disheartened, trying all they knew to equalise, if not win. They forced several corners, but all were fruitless. They were not the force to be reckoned with as they had been in the first half and it was evident that Hereford were determined to keep them out.

Although Nuneaton may consider themselves unlucky not to get both points after dominating the play for most of the gam, their poor finishing must also bear some onus of responsibility. They have only themselves to blame for not coming out of the game easy winners. Their first-half display was full of sparkle, the forwards revealing sound understanding and they were splendidly backed up by a virile half-back line. Weakness in finishing, however, cost them dearly.

Brierley Hill Alliance v Nuneaton Town 06-01-1934

Brierley Hill: Lloyd; McDermott and Cartwright; Davenport, Wakeman and Hunt; Slater, Tastans, York, Freer and While.

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pearson, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton travelled to Brierley Hill Alliance for a Birmingham League fixture. There was a crowd of around 1,200.

The game started rather dramatically, Nuneaton pressing immediately, and a good centre by Tinklin led to an exciting scene in front of the home goal. Nelson failed to get the ball in



time, and a moment later Pearson had a shot deflected. For a time Nuneaton continued to attack, but at length Alliance turned things round and Armory had to head away from a warm raid. Nuneaton soon recovered, however, and Lloyd was called on to make a good save from Nelson. Tinklin also put in some good work, and Nuneaton were giving a good all-round display, having the advantage of a strong breeze. When Nuneaton attacked again White touched the ball to Nelson and his drive was deflected by a defender for a corner from which Lloyd had to save Carr's hook shot.

Alliance now settled down in earnest and had more of the play, and Brookes was called upon to save the ball near the goal, following a free kick. The game was contested at a faster pace and Brierley Hill played with more confidence in attack, but Bradford and Brookes played a good game and proved a solid wall of defence to the attacks of the Brierley Hill forwards. Wannacott put a centre behind and Nelson tested the home keeper with a volley as the game continued in a ding-dong fashion for the remainder of the first-half.

Alliance became immediately aggressive on the restart and won a corner which was cleared. Armory started an move, but it came to nothing before Nuneaton were forced to defend, but poor finishing from the home side meant they were unable to score. After a period on the defensive, Nuneaton got away and a mistake by one of the home backs let in White, who tested Lloyd, after which Wannacott went close. The home side pressed again and shots from York and Wakeman found Berry safe and sound. Pearson failed to take a chance to shoot, but White tested Lloyd, although Nuneaton were not making much headway, with Brierley being the most dangerous and hitting the post.

Nelson broke through for Town, but Wannacott's shot hit the post. Pearson shot over the bar and then spoilt a good move by holding onto the ball. Nuneaton's goal had a narrow escape following a mistake by Carr. The deciding goal did not come until just before the end, with White scoring from Slater's centre. Berry had another save to make before the final whistle saw Nuneaton lose 1-0.

Nuneaton Town v Shrewsbury 13-01-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Carr and Brindley; Cobby, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Shrewsbury Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter.

It was not until Nuneaton had opened the scoring after 15 minutes, when Tinklin headed into the net off the underside of the bar from Bradford's free-kick, that the home team assumed full control, but after that it was only a question of time and goals.

Nuneaton, however, were not too effective in front of goal and as a result many gilt-edged chances went begging. It was not until 17 minutes after the first goal that Tinklin scored again, with a smashing drive from distance.

For practically all of the second half, Nuneaton kept the ball in their opponents' half, but the best of their efforts failed until, with only 15 minutes to go, Tinklin made a good run along the left and centred for Godderidge to direct the ball into an open net. Nuneaton remained on the offensive up until the final whistle.

Individually, Nuneaton more than held their own. Taylor, the Shrewsbury centre-forward, is top of the League list of scorers with 30 goals to his credit, but on Saturday, he gave a sorry exhibition and was totally subdued by the attentions of Carr, who gave, perhaps his best display of the season. He was outstanding in attack and defence. Tinklin excelled on the left and with Wannacott at his best, Nuneaton were very dangerous on that wing. White was only moderate, and in a game in which the forwards had all the play, he was prominent on only a few occasions. Nelson worked hard, but received little support from either White or Godderidge.

Wellington Town v Nuneaton Town 20-01-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Carr and Brindley; Armory, Nelson, Edge, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the journey to Wellington Town for a Birmingham League fixture.

Nuneaton started like greyhounds and it looked ominous when after eight minutes Nelson hit the crossbar and Edge headed in from the rebound, but the goal was disallowed for offside, although it appeared perfectly legitimate. Wellington fought back to good purpose and from that point on always looked likely winners, taking the lead on 22 minutes. The goal came as a result of a brilliant solo effort by Griffiths, who went clean through the Nuneaton defence and scored from close range.

In the ensuing play before the interval, Nuneaton were mostly on the defensive, but the rear division presented a strong front to the attacking force and withstood every effort made to reach their goal.

The ineffective nature of the Nuneaton forward line resulted in a change around after the break with Armory dropping back into the half-back line and Irons switching to right-wing. In the early stages of the second half play was concentrated in the Wellington half, but few shots found their way towards the home goal. Wellington on the other hand, were always dangerous in attack and Berry had an anxious time before he was beaten for a second time 23 minutes after the interval with a fast ground shot from Williams.

A further change in the Nuneaton front line saw Wannacott take over from Edge, but the change made little or no improvement, though towards the end Nuneaton had more of the play. Towards the end of the game Wellington came back and Lloyd missed by inches with Berry completely beaten. The Nuneaton custodian, however, did well to touch a further shot from Griffiths round the foot of the post, and Bradford headed the corner-kick clear.



Nuneaton's main weakness was up front and little was seen of new centre-forward Edge, signed from Worcester City, and Wannacott and Tinklin were very ordinary players. Neither Armory or Irons was a success at outside right. Nelson was star of the attack.

Nuneaton Town v Stafford Rangers 27-01-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pearson, White, Nelson, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Stafford: Dale; Shutt and Duckers; Smith, Roy and Halton; Hay, Waltho, Rogers, Moss and Shaw.

Nuneaton welcomed Stafford Rangers to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game.

Few goalkeepers have given such a distinguished display as the Stafford goalkeeper, Dale. He was under severe pressure throughout the first half and saved his side time and time again, winning the admiration of all supporters. In a number of cases, however, he was distinctly lucky to keep his goal intact, though he stood no chance from a smashing drive by White at the end of 22 minutes' play.

For the rest of the first-half, Nuneaton were rarely out of the Stafford half, but in spite of their pronounced superiority, failed utterly in front of goal. Every moment seemed to bring them an easy chance to add to their slender lead, but the forwards were woefully weak in possession and shot on few occasions, considering the overwhelming share of the play with which they were favoured.

Within a minute of the restart, Nuneaton scored a second goal when Dale punched Tinklin's shot onto the crossbar and Wannacott raced in to score from the rebound. From that point, Nuneaton seemed to take things easy and Stafford, fighting back with added vigour, reduced the lead after 27 minutes of the second half. The ball was sent out to Hay on the right wing, who beat all opposition and centred. Berry pushed the ball out, but only as far as Duckers, who placed the ball into an empty net.

Brindley put Nuneaton further ahead ten minutes from time, before the visitors repeated the move that brought the first goal. Hay secured on the right wing and again sent the ball across the home goalmouth and Berry dived, but failed to grasp the ball and it fell to the feet of Shaw, who tapped the ball into an empty net. Stafford tried the same move for a third time, and for a third time it was successful. This time, Berry did not touch the cross from Hay, but Shaw again shot home past Berry to equalise.

That Nuneaton should allow themselves to be beaten by the same move three times and throw away a winning lead, with just 10 minutes to go is beyond comprehension.

At the end of the Old Year Nuneaton Town supporters had visions of their favourites finishing at least in the first four, but within a month, those visions have been dispelled by a team that has gained a mere three points in the last six matches.

Kidderminster Harriers v Nuneaton Town 03-02-1934

Kidderminster: Perkins; Blake and Pacon; Hardy, Watson and Jakeman; Austin, Salters, MacFarlane, Fereday and Bowden.

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Hardy and Armory; Brindley, Wannacott, White, Carr and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the journey to The Aggborough Stadium to take on Kidderminster Harriers in a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton had to overcome severe handicaps during the game due to injuries to Brookes and Wannacott. A trial was given to Hardy, a youthful centre-half from Newbold Verdon, in Leicestershire.

The team changes were apparent in the early stages when Kidderminster overran the visitors in the first ten minutes and scored twice. Both goals were scored by MacFarlane, and were the result of scrambles while the area was packed with defenders and attackers.

For the remainder of the game, Nuneaton held their own and were even able to reduce the arrears, despite an injury to Wannacott, which caused him to retire until 10 minutes into the second half. A further blow to Nuneaton occurred 15 minutes from the close, and immediately after Wannacott had scored what proved to be Nuneaton's only goal, when Brookes, who had defended with masterly skill, was injured and for the remainder of the play was a passenger on the right wing.

The further re-shuffling of the back division again upset the balance of the whole team, but they continued to have at least their share of the play and there was a possible chance of an equaliser, but Wannacott failed at the critical stage.

There was no great fault to be found with the Nuneaton defenders, apart from their failings in the last ten minutes. Hardy made a promising debut, but it has to be asked if too much responsibility was placed on his young shoulders. The front line was obviously disjointed, with little method in attack and seldom looked likely to score. White and Carr made desperate efforts to get the forward line moving, but were up against a good defence.

MacFarlane's opportunism enabled the Harriers to score their eighth successive victory. He scored both his team's goals. Watson, Austin and Bowden also played well.

Nuneaton Town v Bangor City 10-02-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Bangor: Kyle; Johnston and Bumford; Edwards, Murray and Anderson; Parry, Dewar, Meaney, Len Davis and Pool.

Nuneaton welcomed Bangor City to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. Pick made a welcome return to the side and was given a splendid ovation as he took the field.

All the goals were scored in the first 45 minutes when Nuneaton were by far the better side. They were continually



on the offensive and there were times when they were literally shooting in, and had the forwards only kept the ball lower the score might easily have been doubled. Bangor also played skilful football, but in their case scientific tactics did not produce the expected results.

Town's scheming throughout the first half was a revelation. Perfect passing and complete understanding between defence and attack gave them a definite advantage over their opponents. Nuneaton took the lead after 15 minutes, Nelson receiving from Pick to score with a well directed ground shot, which found the Bangor keeper unsighted. Ten minutes later, Town were two up, when Wannacott scored after receiving the ball from the right. During a scramble for possession in the Nuneaton goalmouth, Brookes had the misfortune to slice his clearance and kicked through his own goal.

Nuneaton still harassed the Bangor defence and with only four minutes to go before half-time, Nelson again found the net with a fine drive after Kyle had deflected a terrific short range effort by Tinklin.

The second half was just as dull and uninteresting as the first had been exciting and thrilling. Nuneaton fell away to a marked degree and were forced to defend for a greater length of time than before the interval. Bangor, however, were rarely on the mark with their shooting and it fell to Armory, who hit the ball against his own post when trying to clear, to go closest for the opposition.

Individually, Nuneaton held the advantage and only White out of the eleven failed to please. The centre-forward should certainly have done better with the many chances proffered, but in the majority of instances a pass would find him with his back to the Bangor goal, when he was invariably robbed. Nelson was the star of the line, but he only found his best form because of Pick's presence on his right. Wannacott and Tinklin outwitted the opposition at every turn, but the latter was inclined to over-elaborate at times.

Carr was the brains behind most of Nuneaton's scheming and excelled in both defence and attack. Brindley and Armory were strong wing halves, while Bradford showed more confidence and dash than usual. Except for one mistake, Brookes was sound and Berry had a quiet day.

Johnston was an excellent back for Bangor with Anderson the best of the intermediate line. Len Davis was kept quiet by Carr. Pick's return saw him give a performance defined by much speed and artistry.

George Hardy Signs For Aston Villa

Nuneaton Town Reserves player George Hardy, of Newbold Verdon, has been signed on professional forms by Aston Villa. It is presumed that he was spotted when making his full debut for Nuneaton at Kidderminster recently.

Hardy is 5ft. 11in. tall and is only 20 years old.

Rhyl Athletic v Nuneaton Town

17-02-1934

Rhyl: Fairhurst; Allcott and Roberts; College, Ward and Evans; W. R. Roberts, Cook, Flanagan, Parden and Dixon.

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; White, Nelson, Andrews, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton travelled to the Belle Vue Stadium to take on Rhyl Athletic in a Birmingham League game.

The game was only seven minutes old when Nuneaton scored, a success that was due to the enterprise of Andrews, who was making his debut at centre-forward. It was his shot that Fairhurst could only partially clear and White ran in to pounce on the ball and shoot into the net. For about ten minutes or so, Nuneaton were seen at their best. The forwards carved their way through the opposing defence and it was touch and go as to whether the home defence would succumb to the attackers.

The early play brought hope of a big Nuneaton victory, but before long it was apparent that this would not be the case. Rhyl fought back with great determination and vigour, with the result that Nuneaton were put out of their stride. So much so that for the remainder of the half Berry had three times as much work to do as Fairhurst.

The expected goals came. Berry had only just punched away when Rhyl returned the ball and Flanagan created an opening for Dixon to flash the ball into the net with Berry on the ground and powerless to save. From this point, Rhyl were beginning to take a more active participation in the game, their forwards showing an improvement in their constructive work. Each goal was alternately the centre of thrills.

In the 30th minute Parden knocked the bottom out of Nuneaton's world with a second goal from a good range, his smashing drive into the top of the net again leaving Berry helpless. This completed the scoring but in the second half when Rhyl again held a slight advantage and Cook miskicked twice to miss certain goals.

On the whole, Rhyl were the more dangerous side. Nuneaton on the other hand, lacked the all-important asset of scoring. Brookes, Bradford and Carr were outstanding in the Nuneaton defence and Tinklin was often seen to advantage in the forward line, but his centres were not taken advantage of.

Nuneaton Town v Cannock Town

24-02-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Nelson, Reeve, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Cannock: White; Grey and Westwood; Turner, Cartwright and Allen; Evans, Adkins, Richards, Galley and Dorset.

Nuneaton welcomed Cannock Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham and District League fixture.

The run of play in the first half was even with Cannock's bustling tactics serving to throw Nuneaton off their game. In the first minute, Armory was injured and for some period



in the game was a passenger on the right wing and limped throughout, although he showed considerable pluck in sticking to his game despite the pain. The first incident of note was a penalty awarded to Nuneaton after 20 minutes for a foul charge on Reeve. Nelson took the spot kick, but drove the ball straight at White. The ball hit the keeper, bounced onto the crossbar and rebounded back into play. It was Nelson's first penalty miss for Nuneaton.

The inside-right made amends seven minutes later when a pass from Tinklin was improved upon by Pick and finally capped by Nelson, who drove the ball home from short range. Injuring his ankle in turning around, he was the second Town player to receive attention and was forced to retire, but returned after five minutes. Pick then picked up an injury and was also forced to retire for treatment.

The second half proved more colourful and although Nuneaton did the majority of the attacking, Cannock hit back early on. Resuming without Pick, Nuneaton found it necessary to defend and after 52 minutes the defence capitulated and Galley went through on his own to score the equaliser. When Pick returned, Nuneaton's play opened out nicely and after a spell of attacking they were awarded a free-kick which Carr converted what ultimately proved to be the winning goal. After that it was all Nuneaton. Tinklin had hard luck in striking the upright and White made two spectacular saves from Wannacott and Nelson, but there was no further scoring.

Interest centred around the first appearance in Nuneaton's colours of Wilfred Reeve at centre-forward. Formerly of Hyde and loaned to the local club by Leicester City. He was given very little opportunity to shine, but showed himself to be very fast and without fear. Nelson was the outstanding forward on the field and put in more shots than all the other forwards put together. Wannacott, Tinklin and Pick each pulled their weight. The Nuneaton defenders were always masters of the situation and there is no criticism that can be levelled against them.

Nuneaton Town v Wrexham Reserves 03-03-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Richards, Carr and Brindley; Lawrence, Nelson, Reeve, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Wrexham: Adams; Williams and Brown; Weale, Beck and Richards; Shonakan, McCabe, Jones, Fryer and F. Smallwood.

Nuneaton welcomed league leaders Wrexham to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game

Because of the strong wind, the game resolved itself into a battle of the defences and the fact was that the Wrexham defence, though much more hard pressed than Nuneaton's, held out the longest. In the first half when favoured with the wind the visitors held the advantage, but rarely looked like scoring. The ball was kept too much in the air when it should have been kept on the ground and their halves and forwards failed to take into consideration the strength of the wind when passing forward, with the result that the ball travelled too fast for the players and was almost as much out of play as it was in.

The visitors were fortunate in being awarded a penalty five minutes before the interval, as they didn't look like scoring otherwise. McCabe's spot kick should have been saved by Berry, who seemed under the impression that the ball was coming high. Before he could get down the ball had flashed underneath his hands.

Nuneaton had a fair share of the play, but Wrexham's strong defence held them with no great difficulty and Adams was never sorely tried. Nuneaton's best effort was when Lawrence made a good run on the right to shoot for the angle of the post, but Adams proved to be alert.

In the second half Nuneaton had matters all their own way, but beyond the equalising goal from Reeve after 75 minutes, they did little of note. Tinklin paved the way for the equaliser, obtaining the ball on the wing he ran well until challenged and then sent across a perfect centre. The ball came too high for Adams and Reeve flashed in and flung himself and the ball into the back of the net.

The excitement was intense in the last 15 minutes when Nuneaton applied all the pressure in one last rally to attempt to gain the lead. The forwards, however, encountered the same difficulty which had confronted their opposites in the previous half. The ball travelled too quickly and whenever the forwards did gain possession they failed to make the best use of it and were far too easily beaten off it by the Wrexham backs. That they had chances cannot be disputed, and the forwards are alone to blame for the home team not leaving the field as victors.

Nuneaton Town v Port Vale Reserves 10-03-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Lawrence, Nelson, Reeve, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Port Vale: Jones; Shenton and Breeze; Birks, Cope and Dickenson; Baker, Mitcheson, Armitage, Challenger and Purcell.

Nuneaton welcomed Port Vale Reserves to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match.

Port Vale had much the better of the early play and attacked with plenty of courage, but when within striking distance of the Nuneaton goal, they were not sufficiently effective against the solid home defenders, whose quick tackling prevented the visiting forwards from pressing home their advantage. Purcell was outstanding on the visitors' left wing and quite the cleverest winger seen on Manor Park this season. He made Armory and Bradford look very small fry indeed, but his fellow forwards were smothered before they could take advantage of his passes.

In a like manner Nuneaton were also singularly ineffective in front of goal and it was a surprising thing, but Brindley their left half-back did as much shooting as any one of the forwards. In the second half, however, they were without the services of Armory through injury, and did exceptionally well to hold their own against such powerful opponents.

The treacherous conditions underfoot handicapped the



players and early on Reeve twice slipped when running through on his own. There was no shooting of note until close on the interval when Purcell struck the crossbar with a long range effort.

Early in the second-half, there were more thrills when Jones saved in great style from a fast rising drive sent in by Nelson and at the other end Berry flung himself across the goalmouth to touch a shot from Armitage round the upright.

An infringement which resulted in a penalty being awarded occurred in the 80th minute when Nelson was brought down in the penalty area by Breeze, the visitors' full-back. The referee's decision was hotly disputed between the visiting players and the official, and also between opposing players. As the players crowded around the official one of the Port Vale players was seen to fall, whether as the result of a blow it was impossible to tell. The official had his back to the players and was intent on the penalty kick, taken by Tinklin and converted with a brilliant effort.

After the penalty and having consulted with the linesman the referee called to players to him and issued a general warning regarding their conduct. Other than the two shots and the penalty incident the second half was totally lacking in front-of-goal thrills, as the first-half had been.

Aston Villa A v Nuneaton Town 17-03-1934

Aston Villa: Tewkesbury; Smart and Young; Pritty, Armstrong and Wilson; Watkin, Maddocks, Berry, Haycock and Tidman.

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Wannacott, Carr and Brindley; Cobby, Nelson, Reeve, White and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the journey to Villa Park to take on Villa Colts in a friendly match. There was a crowd of about 3,000.

Town missed their opportunities. They had quite the better of the scoring opportunities, but they failed to accept them. The atmosphere of the Villa ground appeared to be too much for them, and they were affected by their surroundings.

Neither side was impressive in front of goal, but of the two sets of forwards, Nuneaton's was the more effective. Early on Tewkesbury found plenty to do. He was lucky to be in position to save a hook shot from Reeve, but he was powerless when a fast drive from Nelson struck the upright and rebounded into play. His luck also held good when he deflected a shot from White with his leg, onto the post and out of play for a corner.

On the whole Nuneaton gave a fine display against a classier side and certainly deserved a share of the spoils. The combination of the Colts, however, was a pleasure to watch, particularly during the opening half, despite the strong breeze and the heavy ground conditions.

Fast lively exchanges marked the opening play and both defences were given plenty to do by the attackers. There was little effective shooting and a first-half score looked unlikely until the 45th minutes when Brookes had dribbled his way

through the Villa forwards and over the half-way line, but his pass forward found the wrong man and the ball was returned to the Nuneaton half where the defence was spreadeagled. Brookes was completely out of position, but even then, Berry had a chance to clear his lines had he run out at the first opportunity. When he did leave his goal it was too late, the ball was passed across an empty goalmouth and Maddocks merely put in into the net.

Although their passing movements left much to be desired, Town were by no means the inferior side and when the game was resumed, they enjoyed an equal share of the second half play, but so reliable was the Colts' defence that it was seldom their goal was in danger, but even when they had the chance to score, Nuneaton failed to turn it to proper advantage.

Smart was the mastermind behind the Colts' attack and his ball distribution was delightful to watch. Armstrong, Watkin, Maddocks and Berry all played their part well.

Hednesford v Nuneaton Town 24-03-1934

Hednesford: Webster; Groves and Smith; Galley, Blunt and Nichols; Thacker, Shelton, Shakeshaft, Wilding and Cameron.

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Wannacott, Carr and Brindley; Irons, Nelson, Reeve, White and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the journey to Hednesford to play a Birmingham Combination fixture.

Play was fairly even in the first-half and it was not until 20 minutes that Hednesford took the lead when Galley, the right-half, sent in a high return which Berry failed to hold and of the three inside forwards who rushed up to take advantage of such a slip, Wilding was the one to seize upon the ball and touch it into an empty net.

The equaliser came ten minutes after the interval when Reeve headed through from a corner and ten minutes later the winning goal was scored by Nelson with a shot from distance which completely deceived Webster in the Hednesford goal. There were narrow escapes at both ends before the close but of the two teams, Nuneaton had the better of the play and there were times when they kept the play completely in their opponents' half for minutes on end.

It was a thoroughly interesting game from beginning to end and Nuneaton, after a shaky start, played with a confidence that has been lacking in previous away games and thoroughly deserved their odd-goal victory. Had they played with the same dash and assurance as they displayed in the second half, the result of the match would have been much more in their favour. Hednesford were decidedly lucky to keep the score down to such a narrow margin.

Never were points more welcome to restore Nuneaton's prestige, and the fact that they were a goal in arrears at the interval gives added encouragement of the continuance of winning form away from home. It needs only a few more points like these to put Nuneaton among the league leaders.



Burton Town v Nuneaton Town 30-03-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Wannacott, Carr and Brindley; Irons, Nelson, Reeve, White and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the journey to Burton Town on Good Friday for a Birmingham League fixture. More than 4,000 supporters watched the match.

Burton were without doubt the better side during the first half and fully deserved their goal lead at the interval. The closeness of the spectators to the touchline appeared to cramp Nuneaton's style, as little effective wing play was seen on their side, and it was a long time before they settled down. The biggest thrill of the earlier stages came from Burton when Boswell raced through on his own to beat Bradford on the run. He was about to shoot when Wannacott dashed from the right and robbed him of the ball in the nick of time.

The home side were the more effective team in front of goal, and Nuneaton were again lucky to escape when a pass from Wilkie crossed the Nuneaton goalmouth without being met, and when Boswell headed inches over. Three minutes before the interval, Burton took the lead when Wilkie sent in a high return which Berry missed and the ball struck the far upright. Boswell rushed up and assisted the ball further into the net.

In the first minute of the second half, Bradford let Wilkie in and the outside-left struck the upright, before Nuneaton equalised in the 18th minute of the second half, when Reeve passed forward to White and the latter shot hard for goal. The ball struck the upright and Nelson this time crashed the ball into the net. Wannacott saved a certain goal while Berry was on the floor injured when he took a terrific drive from Rankin full in the stomach and it was unfortunate that he should be penalised a few minutes later when, with no player within 15 yards or more of him he kicked the ball against his hand and Robinson scored from the spot.

The disheartening effect on Nuneaton was quite apparent and in the last few minutes Boswell took advantage of a momentary lapse on the part of the visiting defence to run through and beat Berry as the custodian ran out to meet him. It was the best goal of the match.

It was a thrilling second half between two first-class teams perfectly matched. Nuneaton had just as much of the play as their neighbours, but were not so strongly represented in the forwards. Nelson and Tinklin were outstanding and there was no weak link in their chain of defence.

Nuneaton Town v Oakengates 31-03-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Wannacott and Brindley; Reeve, Nelson, Andrews, White and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed bottom-of-the-table Oakengates to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match.

After a sensational opening in which Nuneaton registered

a first-minute lead through White, the home side fell sadly away from form and until a few minutes before the interval the play was utterly devoid of interest or thrills. Oakengates rallied in the last few minutes of the first-half and equalised when Armstrong ran through on his own, outwitted the Nuneaton defence, and beat Berry with a high volley into the far corner of the net. It was short-lived equality for Oakengates, for a minute later Nelson was brought down in the penalty area and Tinklin scored from the spot kick to give Nuneaton the lead for a second time.

Immediately after the break Nuneaton took all before them and increased their lead first through White and secondly through Tinklin, who charged the ball from Goodchild's hands into the net after the Oakengates' custodian had saved from Andrews. This completed the scoring and from then on until the close, the play again resolved itself into a dull and uninteresting duel between two very moderate sides. Nuneaton, however, were the better finishers in front of goal, but failed in actually shooting.

Reeve showed his best form to date in his new position and certainly surprised his critics with his smartness and speed. Tinklin was also yards too fast and much too clever for the opposition, but the inside forwards failed to take proper advantage of the many opportunities which these two wing men provided. White did more shooting than for a long while and his two goals were a triumph of marksmanship and opportunism.

Nuneaton Town v Burton Town 02-04-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Higham and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Reeve, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Burton Town to Manor Park for an Easter Monday Birmingham League game. There was a crowd of 5,000.

Nuneaton were good value for their victory and with greater accuracy in shooting might easily have doubled their score. Both teams maintained a gruelling pace throughout and the exchanges were of the keenest nature. Nuneaton's long passing tactics kept the game open and their opponents on the run. Favoured with a greater share of the play, they revealed a high standard of combination and without any apparent weaknesses in any department were too good for Burton and thoroughly deserved their win.

There was a thrill in every minute of the game, and the crowd, which included at least 1,000 Burton enthusiasts, was kept in a state of constant excitement. Nuneaton's confidence knew no bounds when after seven minutes they took the lead through Nelson, and in the ensuing play they were the more dangerous side but spoilt many promising movements by erratic shooting in front of goal. Three minutes before the interval Wannacott added a second goal.

Thrill followed thrill as the second half progressed with each team attacking determinedly in turn. The play alternated in quick succession from end to end, but Nuneaton's more



direct methods told and after 65 minutes, White put the issue beyond doubt with a third goal for Nuneaton.

Nuneaton's team work has never been better this season. Every man pulled his weight. Deputising for the injured Bradford at right full-back, Higham rose to the occasion and played a splendid defensive game. Boswell was completely overshadowed and Rankin failed to hold Nuneaton's clever inside-forwards, among whom White revealed improved form.

Nuneaton Town v Hereford United 03-04-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Higham; Reeve, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Hereford United to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture.

Nuneaton concluded their holiday programme with a narrow 3-2 win, but the win was more emphatic than the margin of the win suggests. Town were handicapped by injuries to both Nelson and Tinklin and it was while the latter was off the field towards the close that Hereford rallied and reduced the arrears. They had the best chance to equalise, but with the last kick of the match Rotton shot wide with the goal at his mercy.

Nuneaton were seen at their best in the first-half when the half-backs and forwards delighted a crowd of 3,000 spectators with their well conceived movements in which Higham, Tinklin and Reeve were generally prominent. Within ten minutes Town were a goal in the lead when Tinklin, receiving from Higham, cut in from the left and beat Blackmore with a fast, rising shot. White hit the upright with a terrific drive later, but Hereford replied strongly and Berry was at fault in running out to a long drive from Rotton, which sailed over his head and into an empty net. Taking up the running again, Nuneaton went ahead seven minutes from the interval through Reeve.

In the second half play was of a more even nature with Nuneaton handicapped by an injury to Tinklin. After 70 minutes, however, Armory added a third goal, but Hereford finished strongly and Hiles reduced the arrears with a goal from 25 yards' range.

Nuneaton were strongly represented in defence and the forwards gave the Hereford defenders an anxious time.

Worcester City v Nuneaton Town 07-04-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Irons, Carr and Armory; Lawrence, Higham, White, Wannacott and Davies.

Nuneaton Town made the journey to St. George's Lane to face Worcester City in a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton fielded a weakened side that included Lawrence and Davies from the reserve side, with Irons taking the place of Brindley who was appearing in a Junior International trial match in Dundee. Higham took the place of Nelson at inside-right. There was a crowd of 2,000.

Town started strongly and took the lead in the eighth minute when Davies broke away on his own and shot for goal. Armstrong kicked away, but the ball struck Paton, the home right back, and rebounded back to Davies, who merely walked the ball into the net with Armstrong stranded. Worcester hit back and equalised ten minutes later when a free-kick was awarded for handball against Bradford and Coglein drove the ball into the net from just outside the penalty area.

Davies was always prominent in the ensuing play and on two occasions he was close to scoring. The Nuneaton forwards as a whole, did not finish off their movements to the best advantage and lost several good scoring chances through wild and erratic shooting. In the second half Berry was given a gruelling time and in the first eight minutes after the interval dealt with no less than six corners in quick succession. He was beaten by the seventh, taken by King and converted by Beacham.

The ensuing play was dull and lifeless with dreary midfield spells. Nuneaton seemed desperate, so much so that they threw cohesion to the winds and tried to force their way on the Worcester goal. They had bad luck more than once, but it has to be admitted that their finishing was too haphazard to be of service against Worcester's stout defenders. It was nearly all Worcester at the close.

Town's defence deserves praise. They carried off the defensive honours with a plucky display against overwhelming odds. Berry gave a magnificent display of goalkeeping and that he succeeded in keeping the score down to such a close margin is due credit to his brilliance. The full-backs were generally sound and Carr's work was of great value. Armory was the better wing-half with Davies and Wannacott the pick of the forwards.

Nuneaton Town v Coventry City 09-04-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Reeve, Higham, Nelson, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Coventry City to Manor Park for the final of the Coventry Nursing Cup on Monday evening.

Coventry, who fielded their full London Combination side, held a decided advantage and at the interval led by three goals. In the second half they completely overwhelmed the home defence but could only add one further goal to their interval lead. Their polished tactics were in direct contrast to the hurried and over-anxious methods of the Nuneaton eleven who were too panicky to settle down to real football.

Bacon led the Coventry forward line with supreme confidence and scored a hat-trick, in addition to taking part in Coventry's first-minute goal, for it was his pass which Lake converted. The other goals were scored after 15 minutes, 25 minutes and in the last few minutes of the game.

Coventry were yards faster than the home side, who appeared to be leg-weary. The visitors tackled resourcefully and their passing was much to be admired. Nuneaton were well away



from form and only Brookes' skill at full-back saved them from a heavier defeat. Armory was the best of the intermediate line. Little was seen of the Nuneaton front line and there was a lack of understanding and cohesion. Higham tried hard to force his way through in the closing stages but was beaten by numbers.

Nuneaton Town v Stourbridge 14-04-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Reeve, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Stourbridge: Harris; Silvester and Bowen; Bashford, Spark and Smart; Blackham, Warton, Pimbley, Manuel and Hayward.

Town welcomed Stourbridge to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter. There were over 3,000 spectators present.

Wannacott gave Nuneaton a first-minute lead and Nelson added a second after 22 minutes. White supplied the pass, which gave Wannacott possession and Harris had punched away from Reeve when Nelson seized the ball and drove it into the net. With a minute to go to the interval, Wannacott scored a third after receiving from Tinklin.

Nuneaton were definitely the superior team throughout the first half, but their marksmanship was poor and the tendency of the forwards to shoot too high cost many goals. Their passes often went astray and the inside men played to close to one another and were often in a tangle.

There was an end-of-the-season flavour about the second-half play. Nuneaton fell further away from form and there was little to choose between the teams. Berry was obviously at fault in not stopping Hayward's long range drive which found the net 13 minutes after the interval, having misjudged its direction as he stooped to field it with one hand. Bradford was responsible for the visitors' second goal five minutes before the close. He had every chance to clear Blackham's centre, but sliced his kick and deflected the ball into his own goal.

For Nuneaton, it was an inglorious finish to a promising start. The forwards did not reveal the best understanding and many were the passes that went astray. Tinklin shared a great duel with Silvester and did not always come off best, but he was Nuneaton's most dangerous forward. Reeve rarely failed to make the best advantage of whatever came his way, but like Pick in the old days he was given too little work to do.

Wannacott and Nelson did nearly all the shooting but were well off the mark. White worked tremendously hard to create openings and to force his way through but he was well watched and was given few opportunities to shine. The half-backs were a strong trio, but Carr found his man on too few occasions. Brookes defended stoutly, but Bradford often sliced his kicks and was never too sure under pressure. Berry was at fault only once, and cost his side a goal. The home sides' win ensured that they retained their unbeaten home tag.

This was certainly not a game to enthuse over. Nuneaton were guilty of many blunders, but their opponents were even less capable, and the game resolved itself into an uninteresting duel between two moderate teams.

Shrewsbury v Nuneaton Town 16-04-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Higham and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Reeve, Nelson, Wannacott, Dewis and Tinklin.

Nuneaton Town visited Shrewsbury on Monday in the return Birmingham League fixture and were defeated by three goals to one. They were not at full-strength, however, and had to include Higham at right full-back in place of Bradford. Morris in goal for Berry and Tom Newey at inside-right, owing to the fact that White was unable to turn out.

Nuneaton gave a fine display in the first half and led at the interval by a goal scored by Nelson. In the first 20 minutes or so they could do everything but score. They faded out after the interval when Shrewsbury rallied in fine style to win a well-contested game. Morris equalised and Taylor put the Salopians ahead, and later completed the scoring. Butcher did good work in Shrewsbury's goal when Nuneaton were doing well.

Colwyn Bay v Nuneaton Town 21-04-1934

Colwyn Bay: Williams; M. Roberts and Parkinson; James, I. Roberts and Smith; Styles, Wellings, McCarthy, Williams and Brooks.

Nuneaton: Berry; Higham and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Reeve, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton made the journey to Colwyn Bay for a Birmingham League fixture.

There was very little incident or thrill to arouse enthusiasm in the first half. Colwyn showed early promise of an ultimate easy victory and after Berry had to rush out to smother a dangerous shot from McCarthy, the centre-forward secured possession during a scrimmage and gave his side the lead after 12 minutes. Brooks later missed a good chance of increasing the lead and when Nuneaton replied, Reeve, Nelson and Tinklin were prominent in attack, but the line as a whole failed to finish properly. With the game less than half-an-hour old Colwyn added a second goal through Styles, who sent the ball through a bunch of players to catch Berry unprepared. The Nuneaton custodian tipped a fast drive from Parkinson over the bar and then Town were awarded a penalty for handball against M. Roberts, but Tinklin shot straight at Williams and the custodian cleared.

Further misfortune befell Town when Colwyn secured a third goal only a minute after the interval. A defensive blunder let in McCarthy who beat Berry as the latter came out to him and sent the ball into an empty net. Three minutes later McCarthy added a fourth goal. Nuneaton strove to ease the position, but their attacks generally petered out in front of goal.

Williams missed for Colwyn when a goal seemed imminent and then at last, Nuneaton's determination was rewarded and 17 minutes after the interval, White netted their first goal. Encouraged, Nuneaton applied further pressure, but to no avail and Colwyn scored a fifth goal with 25 minutes to go. Styles netted after Berry had saved from a free-kick. After

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Roberts, the Colwyn right full-back had been taken off the field with a sprained ankle, Nuneaton took up the running and after Wannacott had struck the woodwork, White secured from the rebound and drove the ball hard into the net.

It was only in the latter stages that Nuneaton revealed anything like real form. Their attacks were absolutely without method and a deal of work was thrown on the defence, where Higham deputised for Bradford at right-back.

Colwyn were much improved from the first meeting in December, and with Nuneaton well below form, they did not experience any great difficulty in securing the points.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 23-04-1934

Nuneaton: Berry; Brindley and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Wannacott; Reeve, Nelson, White, Dewis and Tinklin.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for a benefit match for 'Anker' Brookes, who has made more than 220 appearances in Nuneaton colours.

It was obvious from the start that the game was no real test, but merely a friendly, much unlike the former do or die struggles associated with traditional rivalry. The visitors were not at full strength and had to rely upon four Nuneaton reserve players to complete their eleven and Nuneaton also had to make changes due to Bradford's non-appearance.

The game lasted only 60 minutes and in the first-half there was no scoring, nor did either team display enough energy to warrant a score. Nuneaton did most of the attacking, but were completely at a loss of how to find the goal and Hinckley had the better chances of scoring, but twice Young missed 'gift' goals by shooting wide with only Berry to beat.

The period just after the interval provided what little thrill and interest there was in an otherwise dull and scrappy game, for it was within 15 minutes following half-time that all three goals were registered. Town opened the score just after the interval through Tinklin, but six minutes later Hinckley were awarded a penalty and Carrigan converted the spot kick, though Berry had his hand on the ball, but could not effect a save. The winning goal was scored by Reeve seven minutes' later.

There was no player of outstanding merit on either side except, perhaps, Ball, the veteran Hinckley forward, who kept his team well together and was their most dangerous forward. It was poor football at best.

Stafford Rangers v Nuneaton Town 28-04-1934

Stafford: Gale; Parry and Purvell; Smith, Duckers and Wood; Hay, Horton, Stokes, Callaghan and Willett.

Nuneaton: Berry; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Reeve, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Nuneaton travelled to the Marston Road ground of Stafford Rangers for the final Birmingham League match of the 1933-34 season.

The game resolved itself into a battle of the respective defences with the forwards of each side displaying but poor form against strong opposition. Nuneaton missed their opportunities in the first 20 minutes or so when they literally played the Rangers to a standstill, but failed utterly to find the mark in shooting. It was a typical end-of-the-season display with neither side exerting sufficient energy or showing sufficient initiative to warrant more than a share of the points.

The scoring was confined to the last 15 minutes of the game. Nuneaton took the lead following a movement in which nearly all their forwards participated and which culminated in Wannacott finding the net with a great drive. The Rangers went all out in the ensuing play, and Stokes equalised after the Nuneaton goal had been besieged for some minutes.

With just five minutes to go, Stokes made a dangerous rush at Berry in the Nuneaton goal, which led to Carr remonstrating with the Stafford centre-forward, who turned and struck Carr at the back of the head. The two players were immediately ordered off the field. The match ended with scrappy exchanges between two moderate teams.

Nuneaton made a great mistake in starving Tinklin on the left, for he apparently was the only forward who could make headway and the little he had to do was done well. Nelson and White were both moderate and Wannacott neglected his partner, although he himself put in some useful work. The halves were strong, but Carr was too obvious in his passes and a little too slow. Brookes and Bradford excelled and Berry could always be relied upon in goal.

Birmingham & District League Final Table 1933-1934

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wrexham Reserves	38	27	3	8	131	52	57
Worcester City	38	24	3	11	118	62	51
Kidderminster Harriers	38	23	5	10	115	75	51
Port Vale Reserves	38	22	7	9	91	67	51
Hereford United	38	23	4	11	97	61	50
Burton Town	38	22	5	11	103	51	49
Rhyl Athletic	37	20	6	11	82	61	46
Nuneaton Town	38	21	3	14	80	65	45
Bangor City	38	20	4	14	84	62	44
Shrewsbury Town	38	18	6	14	89	77	42
Hednesford Town	37	16	7	14	92	71	39
Brierley Hill Alliance	38	17	3	18	89	76	37
Wellington Town	38	15	5	18	88	106	35
Stourbridge	38	14	3	21	84	89	31
Stafford Rangers	38	9	8	21	65	118	26
Oswestry Town	38	11	3	24	79	117	25
Cannock Town	38	10	4	24	62	110	24
Colwyn Bay United	38	10	4	24	63	126	24
Cradley Heath	38	8	5	25	51	109	21
Oakengates Town	38	4	2	32	44	152	10

Kidderminster Harriers – Extra Preliminary Round

Nuneaton travelled to Kidderminster Harriers for a FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round tie.

Kidderminster: Perkins; Blake and Clanse; Birch, Watson and Fereday; Austin, Salters, MacFarlane, Kirkham and Bowden.

Nuneaton: McKenna; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Pick, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Kidderminster were a trifle lucky in gaining a draw. The visitors were consistently clever, and it was solely due to their poor finishing that they did not win by a comfortable margin. They monopolised play in the earlier stages of the game, but Perkins' duties were not arduous, simply because the Nuneaton forwards put the ball mostly amongst the spectators.

Transferring play the home forwards pressed strongly and when Carr gave away a free-kick, Austin shot inches wide from the free-kick. McKenna was seen at his best in the ensuing play when Kidderminster were well on top and driving hard for a goal. The keeper cleared from every attack, although he was beaten by a ball which hit the crossbar and rebounded into play.

Pick missed a really good opening provided by Tinklin, but he was responsible for supplying a perfect pass to Wannacott, who headed towards the Kidderminster goal, only for Perkins to clear. The Nuneaton left wing pair were next seen in perfect combination and a brilliant move culminated in Perkins saving at full-length from Wannacott.

Both sides were skying the ball too much and as a result the passing was of a poor standard. Salter should have given his team the lead after 35 minutes' play, when McKenna was injured after saving from McFarlane and the inside-right had an open-goal at his mercy, but he shot wide of the post. After a momentary recovery, McKenna collapsed and had to be carried out of the arena and his place was taken by Wannacott. But even with only four

forwards, Nuneaton more than held their own and when the interval whistle blew the visitors were attacking.

The second half play was more to the liking of the spectators. Resuming with ten men, Nuneaton played such determined football that after ten minutes, they were able to take the lead when Pick raced away on the right wing and centred for White to meet the ball and drive it with terrific force into the Kidderminster net. A crop of minor injuries resulted from doubtful play and Fereday had to leave the field, but he resumed after attention, and then McKenna returned to complete the Nuneaton eleven.

The visitors strove desperately to maintain their slender lead, but were unsuccessful and the equalising goal fell to Kirkham, who netted with a long drive, which McKenna failed to hold.

There was some exciting play in the closing stages. With ten minutes to go White headed home to give Nuneaton the lead for the second time, but two minutes from the close Austin found the net for Kidderminster and so levelled the scores. Almost on time Wannacott planted the ball in the net, but the goal was disallowed for offside.

Kidderminster Harriers – Extra Preliminary Round Replay

Nuneaton welcomed Kidderminster Harriers to Manor Park for an Extra Preliminary Round FA Cup Replay. There was a crowd of 2,500.

Nuneaton: McKenna; Bradford and Brookes; Armory, Carr and Brindley; Irons, Nelson, White, Wannacott and Tinklin.

Kidderminster: Painter; Blake and Clanse; Birch, Watson and Dugmore; Austin, Bowcott, MacFarlane, Salters and Bowden.

Former Coventry City winger, Bowden figured in two first minute moves, which put Town under pressure. With their first dangerous move of the match, the home side took the lead when Nelson sent Tinklin away on the left and the winger returned the ball for Irons to meet it with his head and

direct the ball into the net, after just two minutes.

Nuneaton were buoyed by their early success and laid siege to the Kidderminster goal, during which time Nelson, Armory and White were seen in a good combination before the latter sent in a powerful drive, which Painter saved at the expense of a corner.

Town went further ahead after 12 minutes when Nelson headed into the net from Tinklin's pass. The visitors, however, were not greatly disturbed, but persevered sufficiently to take command of the game. It was a serious blunder on the part of McKenna that gave them their first goal, when the keeper ran out in an endeavour to collect a high forward pass from Birch, but completely misjudged the ball, which sailed clear over his head.

Bowcott, the Kidderminster inside-right had merely to run in and touch the ball into the empty net.

Nuneaton's classier style of football failed to produce the desired result and the more direct methods of their opponents met with the greater measure of success. There were times when they had the Nuneaton defence on the run, but much of this unnecessary expenditure of energy on Nuneaton's part was due to the wing halves' failure to exercise anything like a careful watch on the opposing wing forwards, with the result that Austin and Bowden did much as they liked.

The fast play of the first half began to tell on the players of both sides and when the changeover was made at the end of 45 minutes, without any interval, the game had slowed down an appreciable degree, but Wannacott enlivened the otherwise dull progress of the play by heading inches wide of the post and moments later forced Painter to save just under the bar.

A second misjudgment by McKenna gave the visitors an equaliser after 62 minutes when he ran out and completely missed a high return from

Austin and Bowcott again headed into an empty goal. With the scores level both sides went all out for the winner, but it was Kidderminster who looked the most dangerous and Armory made last-ditch clearances on two occasions.

And then, just as suddenly, the game veered around and Nuneaton took the lead following a scramble in the area, a Kidderminster defender handled the ball, and following a consultation with his linesman the referee awarded a penalty, from which Nelson gave Town the lead with 15 minutes to go. The excitement this goal created, can

only be imagined, as the Nuneaton supporters yelled themselves hoarse in encouragement of their favourites, but just when victory appeared certain, misfortune overtook the home side. With only two minutes to go Irons handled the ball in the area and Austin equalised with a terrific drive that gave McKenna no chance.

Extra time was necessary and with the light failing the teams started once again. After five minutes Bowden gave Kidderminster the lead and for the third time McKenna was at fault, when he ran out to intercept a pass across the

goalmouth, but miskicked and allowed to the ball to travel to the outside-left, who merely had to touch the ball into the empty net. Eight minutes later McFarlane put the issue beyond doubt when he increased the Kidderminster score to five with a ground shot which surprised McKenna. The game finished in semi-darkness with Town on the offensive.

The game provided many surprises, the greatest of which was undoubtedly McKenna's unaccountable fall from form. There can be no reasonable excuse for three such serious errors.



Nuneaton Town 1933-34

September 2nd 1933 - F.A Cup v Halesowen. Won 7-2

Back row: Wilf Armory, Alf Nelson, Reg Irons, Jim McKenna, Anker Brookes, George Brindley

Front row: Teddy Pick, White, Bernard Bradford, Ben Wonnacott, Bert Tinklin.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Birmingham District League: Fixtures, Results & Scorers- 1933-34

Nuneaton Score First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers
08.26	Brierley Hill Alliance	Home	League	2-1	Pick, Armory
08.28	Hinckley United	Home	NCC Final	3-1	White (2), Pick
09.02	Halesowen	Home	FAC E-P	7-2	White (4), Wannacott, Nelson, Brindley
04.09	Oakengates Town	Away	League	3-1	White (2), Brindley
09.09	Wellington Town	Home	League	2-1	Wannacott (2)
09.11	Darlaston	Home	BSC2	4-2	White (2), Wannacott, Nelson
09.16	Kidderminster Harriers	Away	FAC Prelim.	2-2	White (2)
09.21	Kidderminster Harriers	Home	FAC Prelim. Replay	3-5	Nelson (2), Irons
09.23	Kidderminster Harriers	Home	League	2-1	Pick, Wannacott
09.27	Bangor City	Away	League	2-4	Tinklin (2)
09.30	Aston Villa A	Home	LHC	0-2	
10.07	Rhyl Athletic	Home	League	3-1	Nelson, Brookes, Tinklin
10.14	Cannock Town	Away	League	2-4	Pick, Wannacott
10.21	Oswestry Town	Home	League	3-2	Armory, Tinklin, Nelson
10.28	Port Vale	Away	League	3-1	Nelson (2), Dewis
11.04	Burton Town	Away	BSC2	1-6	Tinklin
11.11	Oswestry Town	Away	League	5-1	White (2), Dewis, Carr, Pearson
11.18	WBA	Home	NHC Final	3-2	White (2), Wannacott
11.25	Worcester City	Home	League	5-1	Wannacott (2), White (2), Tinklin
12.02	Stourbridge	Away	League	0-1	
12.09	Colwyn Bay	Home	League	4-0	White (2), Nelson, Wannacott
12.16	Wrexham	Away	League	2-5	Wannacott, Tinklin
12.23	Hednesford	Home	League	2-1	Nelson, Tinklin
12.25	Cradley Heath	Home	League	3-1	White, Nelson, Wannacott
12.26	Cradley Heath	Away	League	1-5	Wannacott
12.30	Hereford United	Away	League	0-1	
01.06	Brierley Hill Alliance	Away	League	0-1	
01.13	Shrewsbury	Home	League	3-0	Tinklin (2), Godderidge
01.20	Wellington Town	Away	League	0-2	
01.27	Stafford Rangers	Home	League	3-3	Wannacott, White, Brindley
02.03	Kidderminster Harriers	Away	League	1-2	Wannacott
02.10	Bangor City	Home	League	3-1	Nelson (2), Wannacott
02.17	Rhyl Athletic	Away	League	1-2	White
02.24	Cannock Town	Home	League	2-1	Nelson, Carr
03.03	Wrexham	Home	League	1-0	Reeve
03.10	Port Vale	Home	League	1-0	Tinklin
03.17	Aston Villa A	Away	Friendly	0-1	
03.24	Hednesford	Away	League	2-1	Reeve, Nelson
03.30	Burton Town	Away	League	1-3	White
03.31	Oakengates	Home	League	4-1	White (2), Tinklin (2)
04.02	Burton Town	Home	League	3-0	White, Wannacott, Nelson
04.03	Hereford United	Home	League	3-2	Tinklin, Reeve, Armory
04.07	Worcester City	Away	League	1-2	Dewis
04.09	Coventry City	Home	CNC Final	0-4	
04.14	Stourbridge	Home	League	3-2	Wannacott (2), Nelson
04.16	Shrewsbury	Away	League	1-3	Wannacott
04.21	Colwyn Bay	Away	League	2-5	White (2)
04.23	Hinckley United	Home	Benefit	1-2	Tinklin
04.28	Stafford Rangers	Away	League	1-1	Wannacott

Legend: NCC – Nuneaton Charity Cup; BSC – Birmingham Senior Cup; LHC – Leamington Hospital Cup
NHC – Nuneaton Hospital Cup; CNC – Coventry Nursing Cup; Benefit – Anker Brookes Benefit Match



Brindley and Brookes Re-Sign

Up to date only two of Nuneaton Town's players have re-signed for the 1934-35 season. They are full-back Brookes and half-back Brindley. Reserve and junior players re-signed include G. Crofts, M. Lawrence, J. Richards, A. Sparrow, C. Davis, A. Morris, L. Ford and C. Higham. Tinklin (outside-left) and Armory (half-back) have signed for Folkestone.

George Carr Suspended

A joint commission of the Birmingham County Football Association and Staffordshire FA sat in Birmingham to deal with two players, Stokes (Stafford Rangers) and Carr (Nuneaton Town), for alleged misconduct in a match which was played at Stafford on April 28th. Each player was suspended for the first 14 days of season 1934-35.

Each club was ordered to pay £1, the costs of the commission. Mr W. Deans and Mr F. J. Perry, chairman and secretary respectively of the Nuneaton Town Club, attended the commission. The incident which gave rise to the commission occurred in Nuneaton's match at Stafford, when just before the end of the match, George Carr and Stokes were ordered from the field following an altercation.

New Goalkeeper Signed

Nuneaton Town F.C. on Monday signed a new goalkeeper in William Owen, who was with Stourbridge during the past season in the Birmingham League. Owen is a custodian of repute, and has seen service with Birmingham, Fulham and Coventry City. He stands six feet and weighs twelve stone. He will be remembered for a brilliant display against Nuneaton at Stourbridge last season when Nuneaton lost 1-0.

New Outside Forward Signed

Nuneaton Town FC have signed a new outside-right, Donald McPhail, who was three years with Middlesbrough, and last season with Bournemouth, for whom he made 17 or 18 appearances. He is 24, stands 5ft. 8ins., and weighs about 11½ stone.

Port Vale Resign From Birmingham League

At the annual meeting of the Birmingham and District Football League, held in Birmingham, Mr J. S. Round and Mr A. Sooknell were unanimously re-elected as president and secretary respectively.

Port Vale tendered their resignation from the League, and this was received with regret, the president remarking that they had lost a loyal club.

Cradley Heath and Oakengates Town, who had to seek

re-election, were accepted, but an application on behalf of Carnarvon FC for membership was turned down.

It was decided to advertise for another suitable club to make up the league's complement to 20.

Town FC's Latest Capture

Nuneaton's latest capture is Harry Scott, an inside-forward, who has seen service with Sunderland and Watford. He is 6ft. 1in. in height and weighs 12st. 6lbs. and is known in League football as "Big" Harry Scott. The club is also negotiating the transfer of an English League half-back.

Nuneaton Town's Sign Experienced Centre-Half

Town FC has signed on Jack Dowsey, a centre-half or wing-half, aged 27, 5ft. 10in., and 12st. 2lbs., who made 85 appearances in two and a half seasons with Northampton Town in Third Division football. He was captain of the side for one-and-a-half seasons. The signature of an outside-left and right-back may be expected soon.

Fascism Comes To Nuneaton!

Meagre Attendance: Solitary Black Shirt Speaker

A solitary "black-shirt" ... a straggling crowd ... a host of noisy children drawn by curiosity ... adequately describes the first meeting of the British Union of Fascists in Nuneaton on Wednesday night.

The speaker, Mr Norman Hirst, contact officer for Warwickshire, first took his stand (on a soap box!) at the junction of Newdegate Square and Harefield Road but he was only allowed a few minutes' speech before he was requested to move to the Harefield Road car park by plain clothes police officers. He acknowledged his mistake, and carrying his soap box and jacket along with him moved on and resumed his meeting.

Mr Hirst was allowed a quiet hearing during his rather lengthy denunciation of the present party system, and his explanation of the ideals and aims of the Union as a solution to present-day problems.

As he himself stated, Mr Hirst was suffering from throat trouble and his speech was scarcely audible to the majority of his meagre audience, and when he concluded the few who had remained to listen moved quietly away.

Nuneaton Town AFC AGM

Directors and Better Class Football

The twenty-sixth annual general meeting of the Nuneaton Association Football Club was held at the Cock and Bear Hotel on Wednesday night, Mr Walter Deans (Chairman of directors) presiding. Other directors present included Messrs. F. P. Pembleton (vice-chairman), S. J. Butler, T. Ellis, T. Ford,



J. Stanley, A. Thomas and G. H. Wheway, and the secretary, Mr F. J. Perry.

The directors' report stated that they were pleased to again report a profit on the year's working, which was only brought about by strict economy. They considered it very satisfactory when compared with the club's report of the last season, but again made a special appeal for the unissued capital to be taken up. The team was the only unbeaten side in the Birmingham League games at home and only lost the majority of away games by the odd goal, while the reserve team won the Coventry North Warwickshire Second Division championship. The directors wished to place on record their appreciation of the services of the player-manager (Mr George Carr) and Hon. Secretary (Mr F. J. Perry), as well as the much valued assistance of the Supporters' Club.

The balance sheet revealed a balance on the year's working of £220 13s. 9d. Players' wages and bonus amounted to £1,362 15s., and travelling and hotel expenses to £380 1s. 2d. Gate receipts (first and second teams) amounted to £3,011 10s. 9d., less entertainment tax £464 10s. 9d. A donation from the Supporters' Club totalled £23 and transfer fees amounted to £220 net.

Exasperating Season

In moving the adoption of the report and balance sheet, the Chairman said the shareholders would agree with him that the club's re-entry into the Birmingham League had been justified. It was, however, a most exasperating season in this way, that when they seemed to have a firm grip on the championship they appeared to fritter away their chances, though it was really bad luck on a good many occasions rather than bad play that they came back without the two points. During the season the club established itself a firm favourite with other League clubs and was always well-received in the knowledge that the home club was always assured of its largest gate when Nuneaton visited them.

As far as finance was concerned the club had held its own, but he felt strongly on the matter of the payment of entertainment tax. He thought clubs in such a struggling position as Nuneaton should not be burdened by the payment of such an excessive amount as £464. Much could have been done if they did not have to pay that tax. In addition they had to pay out 3s. 4d. in the £ income tax with an extra 4s. 6d. in the £ on every £ profit made. He was glad to note that the club's overdraft at the bank had been reduced from £142 to £93 18s. 1d.

Weekly Income Of £3 10s. Lost

The club had bowed to public opinion and stopped dog racing at Manor Park, which had meant the loss of a weekly income of £3 10s. Had they continued with that contract they could have cleared their overdraft. He hoped that the loss would be made good by the attendance at Manor Park during the football season of those who had objected to the dog racing.

Referring to the club's unsuccessful application for admission to Third Division football the Chairman said that they were told to apply again when they were clear at the bank and had a balance of £500. At the beginning of last season the directors had been optimistic enough to think they would obtain that balance, but such had not been the case. It was up to the public as to whether the club again applied for admission to the Third Division for only by increased support could the club show an increased turnover.

In conclusion, Mr Deans paid a tribute to the service rendered the club by the players, the player-manager, the Press, ambulance, Supporters' Club, and the Secretary.

In seconding the adoption of the report Alderman Pembleton appealed for increased support at the reserve matches. Now that the team had won through to the first division of the Coventry and North Warwickshire League it would be possible to supply supporters with a better class of football.

The report and balance sheet were adopted.

Messrs. T. A. Ellis, A. F. Thomas and G. H. Wheway, the retiring directors, were unanimously re-elected for a further period of three years.

Team Building

Mr G. Carr reported that four of last year's team in addition to himself had been re-signed. They were Brookes (left full-back), Brindley (half-back), Wannacott (half-back) and Nelson (inside-right). Other positions filled included W. Owen (goalkeeper), J. Dowsey (right-half), McPhail (outside-right), Robson (centre-forward), and Scott (inside-left). It was the intention of the club to have at least twelve first-class players.

The meeting concluded with a vote of sympathy to Mr G. H. Taylor, who is at present indisposed, and the wish for his speedy recovery.

Prolific Striker Signs For Town

Nuneaton Town FC have signed Joe Robson, the ex-Huddersfield, Grimsby and Bradford striker. Robson scored 123 goals for Grimsby and is 31-years-old.

Robson will always be remembered for his prolific scoring at Grimsby. His transfer fee is believed to have cost Huddersfield in the region of £8,000.

Town Sign Wrexham Captain

Nuneaton Town have signed on Jack Brown, a full-back. Brown has played for Wrexham FC for the last three seasons, making well over a hundred appearances. He captained the side that won the Birmingham League championship last season. He stands 5ft. 9in., and his weight is 11st. 10lbs.



Decision to Increase “Gate” to One Shilling

Nuneaton Town Football Club directors have decided to advance the price of admission to first team matches at Manor Park next season from 9d. to 1s.

In making this decision the directors have in mind the increased cost in wages which the club will have to bear next season in their efforts to provide first-class players and a winning team, and also the financial position of the club, which must be improved if they are to make a second application for admission to the Third Division (South) of the English League.

Admission to the ground and stand will be 1s. 6d. for men and 1s. for ladies. Youths under 17 will be admitted to the ground for 6d., and boys under 14 for 2d. The directors have decided not to increase the price of season tickets which remain at 12s. 6d. (admission to ground) and £1 (admission to ground and stand) and which will allow of the holder to see eighteen first team home matches and all the reserve team home matches.

The Club has completed its team building with the signing of Bob Dixon, an outside-left who has seen service with Rhyl and Hartlepool United. He is a clever and speedy winger who can fill either of the two extreme wing positions.

Season 1934-1935

Trial Match

Despite the warm weather on Saturday, Nuneaton Town FC's second public trial match was a well-fought one and some promising football was witnessed. The Blue and Whites side was composed of the probable first team, including the newly-signed professionals, while the opposing eleven comprised mainly of local talent. The “locals” put up a very fine show and there is every reason to believe that the club has a very strong reserve side to call upon in the coming season.

The Blue and Whites did not secure an overwhelming victory over the Red and Whites; indeed, the opposite was the case, for the final score was only two goals to one in favour of the Blue and Whites and the game was a keen, closely fought one all the way through. The Blue and Whites did not establish any marked superiority, but naturally allowances must be made for the fact that it will take time for the new players to get used to one another.

It would seem from Saturday's match that the team is up to Birmingham League standard for weight, physique, experience, speed and science are there, but the attack was rather disjointed. This, however, should be remedied when the players become more accustomed to each other. There were some very promising individual displays.

Among the players that impressed was Robson, the centre-forward, formerly of Grimsby and Huddersfield, who showed himself to be a hard and persistent worker, speedy, and quick on the ball. In Scott and Nelson he had two excellent inside colleagues. Nelson, in particular, looks as if he will have a good season if he continues to show the form he displayed on Saturday.

Some stylish play was given by McPhail, outside-right, the ex-Bournemouth player, who proved himself to be quick in following his opportunities, gathering the ball smartly and sending in accurate centres. Dixon, on the other extreme wing, also performed neatly. He had a big reputation in the Birmingham League last season. The halves, Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley, were a strong trio, positioning and attacking effectively, whilst Brown and Brookes at full-back and Owen in goal gave very little away.

The Red and Whites had a useful leader in Wale and a good right wing in Lawrence and Boffin, Crofts showing up well at inside-left. Sparrow was prominent at half-back and Higham at full-back, whilst Evans ably deputised for Morris in goal.

In the early stages of the game Robson had the ball in the net following a warm shot, but the goal was disallowed for offside. Evans had a busy time in goal for a short period of time, and when the Reds took up the attack Owen showed good judgment in coming out.

The Blues took the lead about half an hour from the start, through McPhail, who worked his way into the centre and beat Evans with a good volley. Neat work by Owen and McPhail marked the next spell of play, but the Blues' shooting left something to be desired.

Following the interval, Nelson increased the Probables' lead from a corner kick by Dixon and Crofts reduced the deficit with a shot under the bar. The Blues were the more dangerous side for the rest of the game, and Robson was much in the picture, though he missed one good opportunity.

Nuneaton Town v Wrexham

25-08-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Nuneaton welcomed champions Wrexham to Manor Park for the first match of the Birmingham League season 1934-35. There was an attendance of around 4,000.

The game resolved itself into a battle of the respective defences in which both sides were well served. Scoring chances were few and far between and in the whole ninety minutes little good shooting was seen. Wrexham were far from impressive and it was a long time before their attack settled down to anything like constructive play. Their efforts in this direction contrasted poorly with those of the Nuneaton front line, whose forwards showed a liveliness and speed that was at all times disconcerting to the opposition.

The all-important goal was a tribute to the untiring efforts

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and splendid opportunism of Robson, the Town's new centre-forward. There were many who had previously suggested that the ex-international was perhaps a little too old and too slow to lead the attack but he disproved any such insinuation by giving a wonderful display of constructive work, which contributed largely to his team's ultimate victory. His bustling activities, combined with a do-or-die attitude, quickly established him a firm favourite with the Nuneaton crowd and when, after 28 minutes' play, he snapped up a short cross-pass and crashed the ball into the net, he was cheered to the echo. In the subsequent play he had many times to fend for himself. He did not stand and wait for the ball to come to his feet, but foraged around and took his share in creating openings which deserved better endings than they met.

It was good to see that the four players retained by Nuneaton from last season came out of a gruelling first match with flying colours. Brookes, first and foremost, never seems to lose his form and although it is agreed that he is not a clever and polished footballer, his worth cannot be over-estimated.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 27-08-1934

Nuneaton: Evans; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Davis.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Charity Cup. The late arrival of the visitors delayed the kick-off by 20 minutes and Hinckley started the game with only nine men. Reeves and Devlin did not join the fray until ten minutes after the kick-off.

The first half was without excitement or interest and lacked the usual thrills associated with a Nuneaton-Hinckley duel. Town appeared content to hold their opponents in check and leave it at that and showed little or no enterprise going forward until after the interval when they put a different complexion on the game altogether. Nuneaton's only goal of the first half was a penalty converted by Robson after 30 minutes.

Eleven minutes after the break, Robson took advantage of an error by a Hinckley defender, who headed Nelson's centre straight to his feet and the centre-forward scored his second goal. Two minutes later Robson completed his hat-trick following a solo effort in which he tricked both full-backs before finding the net. Carrying on the fine work, Nelson completed the scoring with a fourth goal 15 minutes after the interval.

After that it was all Nuneaton. Attack after attack was made, but miraculously Burdett kept his charge intact, although its escapes were as narrow as could possibly be imagined. If Nuneaton had doubled their score in this period of continual pressure it would have been no more than they deserved.

Hinckley fought pluckily against a superior force in which the star member was again Robson. The centre-forward did much of his work on his own and even though he was the mark of at least three opponents, he was clever and speedy enough to outwit all opposition and give endless trouble to a harassed and over-worked defence. Davis and Nelson gave

him good support, but both Scott and McPhail had a quiet day. In a strong defence, Dowsey, Wannacott, Brown and Brookes were generally prominent.

Nuneaton Town v Oswestry Town 08-09-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Oswestry: Wood; Thomas and Storer; Pritchard, Keener and Dixon; Edwards, Baggott, Williams, Tew and Latham.

Nuneaton welcomed Oswestry Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture.

Joe Robson again distinguished himself by registering his third consecutive hat-trick. His first goal was a gift, because he only had to touch the ball into the net after a full-back had headed away from Nelson with the goalkeeper hopelessly out of position. But there was no luck about his other two goals. His second was a shot taken on the run which went into the net off an upright, and his third was a real gem. He and Nelson went through together and when the latter moved into the centre, the Oswestry defenders expected Robson to pass, but instead he swung round sharply and beat Wood with a beautiful drive. In fact the goalkeeper knew nothing at all about the shot, as he was at the opposite end of the goal paying more attention to Nelson than to the centre-forward.

There is just one little thing that Robson must realise, and that is, that it is not necessary that he should be the scorer on every occasion. There were two occasions in the game when he literally "robbed" Nelson of a couple of goals through being over-enthusiastic, and taking passes which he should have obviously left to Nelson, because the latter was in a much easier and better scoring position.

There were some rare old tussles between Robson and Keanor – and the latter invariably came off worse for the very simple reason that the centre-forward was too quick for him. In fact, Keanor had anything but a comfortable time against the quick-footed Nuneaton inside men and was pulled up for fouling both Robson and Scott after being beaten. This roused the crowd to such a pitch that whenever the former international got the ball he was subject to a little mild barracking. Keanor was himself to blame in a way, but it was quite unnecessary for the crowd to keep up an almost continual "hoot."

Scott, once again, was the cleverest of the Nuneaton raiders, and he spoon-fed Robson at times. The Nuneaton defenders adopted their usual plan of campaign – Dowsey between the backs with Wannacott and Brindley playing the dual roles of defenders and attackers, mostly attackers in this game. The latter pair again played well, while Dowsey was a wholly capable pivot. Brown and Brookes did sound work at full-back and Owen was safe in goal. On the whole Nuneaton's defensive work was good throughout and teams are going to find it no easy matter to score against them. Oswestry were a definitely poor side and inferior to Nuneaton in every respect.



Nuneaton Town v Stourbridge 22-09-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Stourbridge: Harris; Sylvester and Bowen; Bashford, Johnson and Smart; Edwards, Gardner, Wombwell, Morton and Manuel.

Nuneaton welcomed Stourbridge to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture.

Early exchanges were fairly even, and the visitors had a good share of the play and showed considerable speed and skill. Town took the lead after 14 minutes through Robson, who scored with a fine shot from just outside the penalty area, landing the ball just inside the post.

Despite the reverse, Stourbridge continued to play well and shots were put in by Edwards and Morton. A neat move by Nuneaton led to Scott testing the keeper, and immediately after Robson put in a shot. Stourbridge had to work hard to keep Robson at bay, while Wannacott was playing a fine game in the half-back line. Good work was also done by Nelson and McPhail. At this point Stourbridge made a determined effort to equalise, but Town's defence proved too strong.

After this spell of Stourbridge pressure, Town returned to the attack and six minutes before the interval, Robson registered another goal when he received the ball from the left and put in a shot which Harris punched out, but Robson planted the ball into the net from the clearance. The visitors goal had a couple of narrow escapes before the interval when Dixon and Robson in turn, were tackled in the nick of time.

At the start of the second half, Gardner headed the ball against the post as Stourbridge kept the Nuneaton defence under pressure for a time. Wombwell also went close before Manuel sent in a shot which Owen saved with ease. Edwards shot into the side netting before Nuneaton came back into the picture and Robson tested Harris, and then delighted the crowd with some good play, before Stourbridge again hit back and Manuel went close with a fine drive. Nuneaton's defence was kept busy with Wombwell and Manuel proving dangerous.

Robson completed his hat-trick 23 minutes after the interval. McPhail got through and passed. Harris came out and Robson put the ball past him and into the net. A minute later Scott put Town further ahead with a fine volley. Despite the convincing lead, the visitors pressed to the last. Robson was again in fine form and completed his fourth hat-trick in five matches.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 24-09-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Boffin, Robson, Nelson and Dixon.

Hinckley: Burdett; Sharp and Goodyer; Devlin, Carrian and AStill; Reeves, Ball, Lowe, Newey and Herbert.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for a Monday evening Birmingham Senior Cup tie. The gate was only around 300, one of the smallest seen at Manor Park for a very long time.

Hinckley were first to press and Owen was kept busy for a time. Nuneaton then got away, Robson shooting wide after a pass from Boffin. Hinckley, however, had most of the play and after 15 minutes, Reeves found the net to give the visitors the lead.

The game had been in progress for about 30 minutes when Ball, of Hinckley, was ordered off the field following an incident in which Dowsey, the Nuneaton centre-half was involved. Towards the end of the first-half, Nuneaton had more of the play, but although Robson tried hard to secure an equaliser, he was well-watched by the Hinckley defence.

Nuneaton equalised about five minutes after the break, from the penalty spot, following a foul on Nelson. Robson scored from the spot-kick with Burdett only being able to help the ball into the net. Nuneaton were now on top and had two successive corners on the left, but their forwards were moderate. Nelson eventually made a good forcing effort, but Hinckley were sound in defence. About 20 minutes after the restart McPhail went through on his own, and scored with a brilliant oblique shot. Nelson worked hard to maintain Nuneaton's advantage, while Wannacott drove wide from Dixon's centre.

Nuneaton continued to have the better of the play, but were none too quick on the ball. Nelson and Robson continued much in the picture and Burdett had to save from McPhail. Lowe robbed Dowsey and tested Owen with a well-meant volley. Robson almost scored towards the close, and he then headed in from McPhail, but was given offside.

Nuneaton were not up to their usual standard and although Hinckley were handicapped by being a man short, they were the superior team in the first-half.

Football Club's Decision On 6d Gate For The Unemployed

A protest against the Nuneaton Town Football Club Board of Directors' decision not to admit local unemployed to football matches at a reduced charge of 6d. was made at the monthly meeting of the Nuneaton and District Trades Council, held at the Bond Gate Labour Club, on Wednesday evening. Mr E. Johnson presided.

The matter was brought up by the secretary (Mr E. Twigger), who said he felt very sore that the Board of Directors had refused to allow unemployed men to attend football matches at a charge of 6d. For every 100 who paid a shilling to see the matches, there were at least 200 unemployed who would pay 6d. to attend the matches, and he thought the Board of Directors' argument that the club was in a bad way was absolutely "rotten." He suggested that the Trades Council send a letter asking the directors to reconsider their decision. There was not the least doubt that there were numbers of unemployed walking about Nuneaton on Saturday afternoons who would only be too glad to pay 6d. to see the matches and forget their misfortunes for a little while.

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Practically every club in the Birmingham League allow their unemployed to attend matches for 6d.

A member asked how an unemployed man could gain admission to the ground for 6d., and Mr H. Stringer explained that the green card which an unemployed man received from the Labour Exchange in return for his unemployment book should be shown. He thought the Club would benefit in the long run if they admitted the unemployed at sixpence. There were also the men whose work was irregular, and who, when they were on the “dole” could not afford a shilling. These men then went to the “Scotsman’s stand” along the canal side and were subject to the skits of others. He thought this was a shame.

Mr G. Dickens: I think many men, miners for instance, would find it difficult to find even sixpence.

Mr Twigger suggested that if the Directors turned down the Trades Council suggestion that they should circularise all the Trades Unions in the town asking them to boycott the football matches.

It was decided to send a letter to the directors of the Nuneaton Town FC asking them to reconsider their action.

Nuneaton Town v Aston Villa A 29-09-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Aston Villa: Tewkesbury; Callahan and Bowen; Pritty, Hardy and Tate; Tetchard, Carrington, Dean, Haycock and Tidman.

Nuneaton welcomed Aston Villa A to Manor Park for a friendly match. There was an attendance of about 1,000.

Tidman tested Owen before Nuneaton hit back and a good passing move between McPhail and Nelson resulted in Robson being stopped by Callahan. Robson shot wide with a powerful drive before Villa recovered and Dowsey stemmed a raid by the visitors. Brookes halted a Villa attack at the expense of a fruitless corner before Robson brought a good save out of Tewkesbury. The game continued in an open character and Brown stemmed a dangerous Villa attack and Owen saved from Tetchard.

Robson was dispossessed in the nick of time by Bowen before Villa went close when Carrington shot just wide. Colts attacked and a shot by Dean won a corner, which was saved by Owen before Nelson caused some excitement just outside the visitors goal. Dean put in a good drive from a free-kick on the edge of Nuneaton’s area, while the home side had a penalty appeal turned down, after Hardy appeared to handle. Scott shot just wide while at the other end Dean skimmed the bar. Nuneaton pressed strongly just before the break. Dixon got away and forced Tewkesbury to punch clear and Nelson drove the clearance over the bar. Robson hit the foot of the post and Brindley tested Tewkesbury before the half-time whistle.

The Villa were first to press after the break, but the sides were so well matched that it was impossible to say which

team held the advantage. Owen tipped over a magnificent shot from Tidman, while Tewkesbury punched away from Wannacott. Owen cleared a corner from Tidman and Bowen kicked back to Tewkesbury when pressed by McPhail. McPhail sent Robson clear, but his shot was brilliantly saved by the Villa keeper, who saved Brindley’s free kick just after.

Town took the lead 25 minutes into the second half when Nelson initiated an attack which was cleared, but the ball was driven back in where Dixon had the perfect opening and shot into the visitors’ goal. McPhail gave Villa another anxious moment before Brookes was injured and went to the left wing. Villa got away and a centre from the right gave Dean a simple chance, which he put away, his shot giving Owen no chance. Scott brought another save from Tewkesbury before the end.

Colwyn Bay v Nuneaton Town 06-10-1934

Colwyn Bay: Elliott; F. Edwards and M. Roberts; J. Smith, Phoenix and W. Edwards; Syles, Newton, McCarthy, J. D. Williams and Lorenson.

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Carr and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Nuneaton made the journey to Colwyn Bay for a Birmingham League encounter. The pitch was sodden following heavy rain.

Nuneaton pressed from the start and took the lead after about three minutes when J. Smith miskicked and the full-back kicked over the bar. McPhail took the corner and Scott headed the ball into the net. Nuneaton continued to dominate and carried out some first-class moves. Nelson sent in a fine shot which was successfully blocked. For the next ten minutes Colwyn Bay were penned in their own half, and then managed to break away, before a clearance sent Robson away, but his shot was not hit properly. Owen was forced to save from Syles before Nuneaton retaliated and Elliott was called into action by Wannacott’s shot. Nuneaton then increased their lead following a combined movement which ended with Nelson heading into the net. Colwyn Bay reduced the arrears when J. Smith scored from a long-range free-kick, which was awarded for a foul by Carr.

This inspired Colwyn Bay and they pressed again and Owen was forced to save again before Brookes and Brown were called on to clear in turn. The home side’s goal had several narrow escapes following shots by Nelson, Scott and Robson. Colwyn pressed for a time, but Nuneaton hit back and after Ray had failed with two free-kicks, Robson forced a save out of Elliott, who saved a header from McPhail’s centre. Elliott was then called on to save several shots as Nuneaton pressed right up to the interval.

Nelson went close with a drive straight after the break and Robson got in a shot following a centre from McPhail, which was saved a close range by Elliott. The home side grabbed an equaliser 10 minutes after the break, when following a rush, McCarthy was able to score with a shot just inside the post. Excitement was high after the equaliser, but seven minutes later Nuneaton got a magnificent goal following a good

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combined move which saw Dixon's centre reach Robson, whose oblique drive, hit the inside of the post before going into the net. Nuneaton kept up the pressure and Robson scored again after 25 minutes, after Scott had created an opening, for the centre-forward to run through and beat the keeper as he advanced out of his goal.

Nelson scored another goal for Nuneaton, heading home after Robson had forced an opening for McPhail to centre. McCarthy reduced the arrears, tapping into the net following a free-kick. Bay pressed in the latter stages, but were unable to make any impact. Elliott was hurt and had to retire before the end of the game.

Bangor City v Nuneaton Town 13-10-1934

Bangor: T. Bennion; Ball and Bumford; Johnson, Heiller and Rogers; W. T. Hughes, Howard, Hodder, Len Davies and Poole.

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Nuneaton travelled to Wales for the second consecutive week to meet Bangor City in a Birmingham League match.

Bangor were first to attack, but Nuneaton defended well before Dixon put in two shots and Robson hustled the keeper. Brookes headed clear when Bangor attacked again. Five minutes after the start Nuneaton took the lead from the penalty spot after Robson was brought down in the penalty area following Nelson's pass. Robson took the kick and scored with a great drive. Bangor equalised two minutes later, netting with a long drive following Len Davies' pass. Nuneaton regained the lead four minutes later, Robson scoring with a smashing shot from McPhail's centre.

This concluded the scoring in the game and the play continued in a ding-dong battle. The football was first-class, but so evenly matched were the teams that neither side showed any great advantage over the other. Nuneaton played great football and it was a fast and exciting game. Owen came out and made a splendid save from Hodder, and followed this up shortly with another brilliant save. Nuneaton then made a raid which Nelson initiated, but Wannacott centred wide.

Robson was hurt in making a dash for goal, but was able to resume. Brindley and Nelson put in a some great work, and Dowsey defended well as a third back. Bangor missed a golden opportunity when Owen came out to deal with a raid, and Hodder shot over with the keeper out of position. Owen was called on to save from Hughes, while at the other end Bennion saved Dixon's centre. Brown made a crucial clearance for Town before Hughes had a good chance, but Owen was equal to it. McPhail's run took him past two players, but Bennion saved his shot at the expense of a fruitless corner.

Nuneaton gave a good all-round display in the second half, which was well-fought and interesting. Nuneaton attacked immediately and would probably have scored through a Robson header, but he was given offside. Town continued to

have the better of matters, and the half-backs were in fine form. Owen made two saves when Bangor threatened, and Dowsey tackled Hodder when he looked dangerous. City failed with a free-kick before Town took up the offensive again with Nelson looking dangerous as the visitors looked like scoring again. A Nuneaton free-kick was placed well by Wannacott, but headed away by a defender.

In the latter stages of the game each side attacked and Len Davies missed a great chance for Bangor. A little later there was a prolonged scramble in front of Town's goal and Bangor missed a good chance following a centre from the right. The game ended in exciting fashion, Robson getting through and sending in a sharp volley which brought Bennion to his knees.

Nuneaton Town v Hednesford Town 20-10-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Hednesford Town: Webster; Groves and Smith; Tranter, Blunt and Thacker; Rowley, Legge, Wilding, Lane and Dorsett.

Nuneaton welcomed Hednesford Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture. There was a crowd of about 2,000.

Nuneaton had practically everything their own way in the first half, and took the lead straight from the kick-off, Scott taking the ball through and passing to Robson, who scored with a lightning shot which gave Webster no chance. Nuneaton continued to have the upper hand for some minutes before the visitors broke away and Lane tested Owen with a fast shot. Brindley initiated a raid, which resulted in a free-kick for handball, but the shot was cleared. Scott shot wide before Robson was brought down just outside the Hednesford penalty area. Robson took the free-kick himself and tested Webster with a stinging shot.

Nuneaton were almost irresistible in attack and there were some exciting scenes around the Hednesford goal, the home team setting up a bombardment from which Hednesford were lucky to escape. Nelson just missed from Dixon's centre before Webster came out to block a shot by Dixon. For a time Hednesford managed to relieve the pressure and transferred matters, but they were soon beaten back and Nelson headed against the woodwork, with Robson shooting wide from the rebound. Nuneaton increased their lead after 25 minutes when Robson got through and was brought down in the penalty area. He took the spot-kick himself and scored with a great drive just under the crossbar.

Nuneaton continued to give Hednesford a gruelling time, and missed a glorious opportunity of going further ahead when Scott, instead of shooting into an open goal, walked the ball outside. After 36 minutes, Robson completed his hat-trick. Scott sent the ball out to McPhail, who sent in a perfect centre to Robson, the latter heading in high up. Hednesford had a further setback two minutes later when, following good work by Dixon, Robson again scored with a splendid volley from almost 30 yards.

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Nuneaton took matters fairly even in the second half and could have added more goals, but as it was the second period remained goalless, although Nuneaton were definitely on the top all the time. Hednesford attacked in the second half, but couldn't make any impact, with good work being put in by Brown and Dowsey. Nuneaton got away and Robson hit the woodwork with a smashing volley. The visitors retaliated and Owen saved from Blunt.

Webster was kept busy and had to save from McPhail and then from Dixon, following some tricky work from Scott. Owen saved from Dorsett, while Robson went past a defender, but was pulled down by another. Hednesford had a narrow escape following Wannacott's drive before Rowley brought off a fine save from Owen.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City A 27-10-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Birmingham: Cooper; Darbyshire and Lilley; Summers, Butler and Loughran; Hollingshead, McGurk, Pearson, Sanders and Bulger.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham City A to Manor Park for the semi-final of the Coventry Nursing Cup. Rain and wind made conditions difficult for good football

Birmingham had a strong wind in their favour in the first half, but Nuneaton did most of the attacking in the early stages, both extreme wing forwards being in the picture, and Wannacott shot over. The visitors retaliated, but Dowsey and Brindley were equal to the occasion. At length, however, the Colts became really dangerous and Bulger sent wide from a good movement. The visitors escaped from a free-kick, awarded for a foul on Robson, but Nuneaton pressed and Cooper had to come out to stop Robson. Owen was tested following a corner, as Bulger put in a good display and from one of his centres Owen had to save from Hollingshead.

Nuneaton continued to have the best of matters, and were awarded a free-kick for a foul on Robson, Brindley shooting over. There was an exciting struggle outside the visitors' goal just after, when McPhail sent in a fine centre and Scott and Robson almost scored. Town took the lead three minutes before the interval when Robson passed out to McPhail, who netted with a low drive from good range.

Nuneaton became aggressive after the break and looked like increasing their lead when Wannacott sent in a drive. The ball, however, hit Butler, the Colts' centre-half. Brookes repelled an attack before Nuneaton set up a hot attack, during which McPhail was injured as he was going through. Nuneaton should have increased their lead, as they had everything their own way, but the forwards were not up to their usual form. Nelson went close once or twice. On another occasion he beat the entire field, but his centre went begging.

Birmingham suddenly took a new lease of life and attacked hotly and with determination, and their effort was rewarded after 23 minutes of the second half when Hollingshead beat

the home defence and centred, giving Pearson a perfect opening from which he scored. The closing stages of the game were the most exciting of the match, with both teams striving for the lead. The Birmingham goal had a narrow escape when Cooper had to fall on the ball from a centre and had difficulty in getting it away.

Nuneaton had the better of the last few minutes and tried hard to score, when there were several exciting scenes outside the Birmingham goal.

Nuneaton Town v Burton Town

03-11-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Burton Town: Sommerville; Williams and Peters; Marshment, Rankin and Brown; Mills, McCabe, Archibald, Halliday and Torbet.

Nuneaton welcomed Burton Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham Senior Cup second round tie. There was an attendance of nearly 4,000 with a fleet of coaches bringing 500 supporters from Burton.

Nuneaton made a fast start and Dowsey got the ball out to Dixon and from the winger's centre, Robson troubled Sommerville with a short range effort. Burton were not slow to reply and showed power in attack. Rankin sent Archibald away and the little centre-forward slipped the ball to Mills, who had cut in unattended. The winger's first time shot went just wide. Once in the Nuneaton half, the Burton attack was not easily repelled and Brown and Brindley were called on to stem two quick raids in which all five forwards participated. Brookes was just able to divert a header, and Archibald and Owen saved a long shot from Rankin. Dowsey again sent the Nuneaton attack moving and things looked black for Burton when Scott got through. The inside-left sent in a hard ground drive, but Sommerville brought off a great save. Nuneaton took the lead when McPhail forced a corner and Robson headed well out of Sommerville's reach from the flag-kick.

Burton tried to equalise and gave Nuneaton's defence several anxious moments. Archibald just skimmed the upright with a hard drive, while Torbet and Mills tested Owen with ground shots. Play veered again and McPhail made ground on the right and from his centre, Dixon gained possession. Marshment prevented a certain goal when he deflected Dixon's shot.

Nuneaton increased their lead after 20 minutes with a great goal. Nelson ran onto a forward pass from Wannacott, and crashed the ball into the roof of the net from 20 yards out. Burton continued to have a fair share of the play, but their forwards lacked Nuneaton's precision and accurate shooting.

The Nuneaton goal had a narrow escape following a raid in which Mills sent the ball across to the opposite flank where Torbet put in a perfectly timed oblique shot that Owen just managed to punch clear. Archibald looked a certain scorer as he raced in but Owen pushed his shot round the post. Nuneaton set up a strong raid, but Burton regained the initiative and were on top right up until the break.



Early exchanges in the second half were evenly contested until an infringement by Brown gave Nuneaton a chance. Dowsey took the kick, but Williams cleared before Robson could gain possession. Scott shone at this point in the game with some fine passing. Nuneaton increased their lead ten minutes after the re-start. McPhail beating three defenders in a spectacular solo dribble, passed to Wannacott whose first time drive flew across the goal, hit the upright, and bounced into the net. Nuneaton proceeded to bombard the Burton goal with shots rained in by McPhail and Scott, while Robson headed over.

Torbet and Mills missed golden opportunities for Burton before Dixon got through and scored, but the goal was disallowed for an infringement. In the closing stages Burton livened up and kept the Nuneaton defence busy. There were some exciting scenes at both ends and Scott hit the upright from a pass from Dixon.

Nuneaton Town v Hereford United 10-11-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Hereford: Blakemore and Isherwood; Oliver, Watson, Preedee and Imbery; Wardell, Summers, Davis, Rotton and Hann.

Nuneaton welcomed Hereford United to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match. There was a crowd of about 2,000.

Nuneaton started in great style and scored in the first minute. From an attack down the centre, Robson was presented with a good opening and sent in a fast shot from a fair distance. The force of the shot made it impossible for Blakemore to hold. McPhail tested Blakemore with a drive before Hereford fought back and Rotton forced Owen to save. The keeper had to deal with several more shots, although none were really dangerous. Nuneaton got going again and a good centre from McPhail was cleared and Hereford attacked again, with Rotton missing a good chance from Wardell's centre.

Hereford attacked time and again, with Owen having to save at close quarters from Davis. During this period Brookes defended well, and it was mainly due to his efforts that Hereford did not score an equaliser. Nuneaton increased their lead after 23 minutes when Nelson put in a good centre, and the ball went past Robson to Dixon who scored with a shot from near the post. Nuneaton had the better of the play for the rest of the half, although their goal had a narrow escape when Owen was lying injured on the ground and Summers hit a shot against the post. Just before the half-time whistle Nelson scored a third goal, following a scramble in front of goal.

Hereford looked dangerous at the start of the second half, but Town attacked again and good work was put in by Dixon, Robson and Scott. Blakemore deflected Scott's shot at the expense of a fruitless corner before Dowsey and Brown defended well for the home side. Scott again tested Blakemore with a stinging shot. Hereford got in two or three shots and Owen made a brilliant save from Rotton, diving full-length, but this turned out to be Hereford's last effort.

The visitors seemed to suddenly collapse and Nuneaton had no trouble in notching a further three goals. The first came after 20 minutes of the second half when Nelson headed home from a corner kick taken by McPhail. The other two goals came in the last 10 minutes, when Nuneaton completely monopolised play. Following a succession of corners, Scott was brought down in the area and Robson scored from the spot. Close on time Nelson completed his hat-trick when Robson provided him with an easy opening.

Town FC's Concession To Unemployed

A deputation appointed by the Nuneaton Trades Council, Messrs. Corbett, Dickens and Kiteley, attended Manor Park on Tuesday evening, at the invitation of the directors of the Nuneaton Town FC respecting a reduced price of admission for the unemployed to visit the Town's league matches at Manor Park. The deputation was received in a most friendly manner, and was given every opportunity to explain their case on behalf of the unemployed.

After careful consideration, the directors of the Football Club have agreed to the unemployed being admitted to the following matches at sixpence:

Rhyl, on Saturday next; Kidderminster, on Saturday, December 8, and Worcester City, on December 22, on the following conditions:

1. On a suggestion from the Trades Council that they have been unemployed for six weeks previous to the Rhyl match and have six crowns or franks stamped on their insurance card by the Labour Exchange.
2. That they attend at the Beaumont Road entrance before 2pm on each of the dates mentioned with their insurance cards, to gain admission to the ground on payment of sixpence.

The directors hope that this concession will increase the gate receipts, and they promise to review the position at the end of December.

It is hoped that the unemployed will turn up before 2pm, otherwise they will have to pay the ordinary price of admission. The Beaumont Road entrance will be open at 1.45pm.

Mr Corbett thanked the directors for the courteous manner in which they had been received.

Brierley Hill Alliance v Nuneaton Town 17-11-1934

Brierley Hill: Lawrence; Smart and Follis; Blunt, Homer and Whitehouse; Millington, Thearle, Glotham, Marshall and Guest.

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Nuneaton made the journey to the Cottage Street ground to take on Brierley Hill Alliance in a Birmingham League game.

Town attacked from the start, but were soon pushed back

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as Alliance swung the ball about to good purpose. The early stages of the game were evenly contested and the football was of a very interesting character. Both sides carried out raids, but Nuneaton were more determined, in both attack and defence. Nelson initiated a raid that saw Robson nip in and unleash a hard shot, which was blocked by a defender. Town escaped from a free-kick on the edge of the penalty area, as the home side had the better of things for a spell. Scott put in some clever work, which won him applause, before sending in a speedy drive that grazed the crossbar. Owen saved a header from Guest before Nelson made a splendid dribble, his centre causing a tussle in the Alliance goalmouth from which Robson tested Lawrence.

The game at this point was fast and keenly fought with both sides showing excellent ball control. Nuneaton took the lead five minutes before the interval when McPhail fired in a shot which Lawrence partially saved, but Smart kicked the ball into his own net.

The light was failing at the start of the second half, and it was as well that the teams turned straight round. Nuneaton continued to play well, and although Alliance put on pressure in the latter stages, their attacks had no real sting to them. The home side were unfortunate to have Lawrence injured in a collision with Robson and although the keeper continued, he was obviously in pain. Nuneaton increased their lead 14 minutes before the end. They had been hemmed in for some minutes, but suddenly made a breakaway, and McPhail got through and centred for Robson to nip in and easily beat Lawrence with a clever screw shot. Town had a hectic last few minutes and Owen pulled off a brilliant save from Marshall.

Nuneaton Town v Rhyl Athletic 24-11-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Porter.

Rhyl: H. Jones; Allport and J. Roberts; Ivor Roberts, Hurrell and Walker; W. Roberts, Welsh, Chambers, Cooke and M. Jones

Nuneaton welcomed Rhyl Athletic to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match. The gate was around 1,500, which is not enough to maintain a team of the present quality, and larger attendances are required if Nuneaton is to ever to have English League football.

Nuneaton attacked hotly from the start and Robson and the other forwards sent in a succession of shots. The Rhyl defence performed well under severe pressure. Owen was forced to pull off a good save from Chambers' shot before Scott got Porter away, but the winger put in a wild finish. Nuneaton took the lead after 11 minutes when Scott passed to Porter, who centred for Nelson to find the net with a great volley from some distance. Rhyl immediately hit back and looked for an equaliser, but the home defence was solid.

Town increased their lead after 25 minutes. Robson sent Porter away and the winger centred for Robson to score a splendid goal with the goalkeeper and back almost on top

of him. The game continued to be full of thrills and seven minutes later Town scored again when Robson scraped the ball home following good work by Porter. Owen saved from W. Roberts and Chambers as Rhyl looked to get back in the game. Most of the first half was in favour of Nuneaton, but Rhyl had a fair share of the play.

The second half started tamely and exchanges were even. Wannacott shot wide from a free-kick before Nuneaton's fourth goal was scored ten minutes after half-time. Robson was brought down in the penalty area, but got up to take the spot kick, and although H. Jones partially saved, Robson scored from the rebound. Twenty minutes after the break Nuneaton scored a fifth goal, Scott heading into the net following pressure down the home left. Soon after H. Jones tipped Wannacott's free-kick over the bar.

Nuneaton continued to have the better of matters and Rhyl didn't make any impression on the home defence, with Brookes and Brindley putting in some sterling work. Rhyl's only goal was scored after 38 minutes of the second half when Brookes fouled a Rhyl forward in the penalty area and J. Roberts scored with a good drive, which gave Owen no chance. The game finished in near darkness, with Nuneaton still pressing and Scott going close.

Dudley Town v Nuneaton Town 01-12-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Dudley Town: Edgington; Stainton and Neale; Wakeman, Noyce and Gough; Slater, Cartwright, Berry, Edwards and Lawley.

Nuneaton travelled to The Sports Centre to take on Dudley Town in a Birmingham Senior Cup third round tie.

Dudley attacked from the start and Brown and Brookes defended well. The home side missed a chance to score when Slater miskicked in front of goal before Nuneaton retaliated and following good work by Dowsey, Wannacott tested Edgington with a first-class drive. From this point in the game the play was mainly in favour of Nuneaton, although Owen was called on to deal with a tricky centre from the left.

The game was played at a good pace and the football was entertaining and Dudley came back and pressed for a while, with Owen saving twice from Edwards. Dudley escaped from a free-kick for a foul on Robson, while Nelson sent in a long shot, which Edgington saved. Nuneaton were forced to defend before Robson made a great effort to force an opening, before Town made great progress, but Scott was tackled. Nuneaton's forwards began to assert themselves and Robson almost got through, and just after the same player forced a corner from which Wannacott shot over.

Dudley were unfortunate to lose right-back Stainton, but they pressed hard and Owen had to make a difficult save following a miskick by one of the backs. Scott passed to McPhail, who made a nice run, but was overwhelmed. From a centre by McPhail, Nuneaton failed to score following a scramble in



front of the Dudley goal. Before the half-time break Edgington saved from Scott's header and a free-kick from Wannacott, while Robson also went close.

Dudley started the second half with eleven men, although Stainton was a passenger on the right wing. The home side had hard lines in not scoring from a scramble in front of the Nuneaton goal. Seventeen minutes after the restart, Scott drove the ball through a group of players and past Edgington, who was unsighted to give the visitors the lead. Ten minutes later Robson was brought down in the penalty area as he was going through, and he converted the resulting spot kick.

The Dudley goal again came under pressure, but they broke away and Nuneaton were forced to defend. Wannacott tested Edgington with a long range drive before the keeper made a brilliant save following a corner. The home side survived a free-kick following a foul on Robson, before they became hemmed in their own half in the latter stages. With the light fading, Owen touched away a shot by Berry and Edwards headed just over the bar.

Nuneaton Town v Kidderminster Harriers 08-12-1934

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Kidderminster: Allen; Blake and Jakeman; Staley, Watson and Birch; Austin, Boswell, MacFarlane, Saltorn and Bowden.

Nuneaton welcomed Kidderminster Harriers to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter.

Kidderminster started strongly and Nuneaton were forced to defend, with Owen punching away. Brindley made a good clearance to relieve the pressure on the home defence, as the Nuneaton's goal was under constant pressure for the first 20 minutes, with Brown and Brookes winning the applause of the crowd for the quality of their defensive work. Eventually, Nuneaton broke away and Allen the Harriers' keeper tipped over a shot from Nelson. Dixon's flag-kick was well placed and under pressure from the home forwards, a Kidderminster back handled the ball and Robson converted the penalty.

The visitors still pushed the Nuneaton defence back and Owen saved magnificently from Bowden's shot. The home keeper kicked away from Austin, and then proved safe again when the visitors mounted another dangerous attack. Both teams had played excellent football in the first half and at the break the home side led 1-0.

After the break Nuneaton were very aggressive and the Kidderminster defence was kept busy. Nuneaton extended their lead five minutes after the interval when Scott sent McPhail away, and the latter centred. Nelson took the ball nearly to the line and passed to the left, where Dixon darted in and banged the ball into the net. It was a neatly worked goal for which Nelson had a great share of the credit. The visitors shaped up well, despite this reverse, and Dowsey brought off a good piece of defensive work.

Nuneaton regained possession and ten minutes after the

break McPhail got clean away, and centred to Robson, who gathered the ball and shot into the top of the net. Harriers escaped from a free-kick on the edge of their penalty area before a great centre from Austin led to the Nuneaton goal being invaded for a time, but Owen again came to the rescue. Robson shot over from McPhail's centre, while McFarlane shot over the bar for Kidderminster. Wannacott put in some magnificent work for Town in the latter stages of the game as the visitors made desperate efforts to reduce the home side's lead. Four minutes from time they were rewarded when McFarlane shot home from close range. At the final whistle Town had won 3-1, their tenth win in ten matches.

Hednesford Town v Nuneaton Town 15-12-1934

Hednesford: Webster; Groves and Smith; Galley, Blunt and Thacker; Calder, Martin, Hartshorn, Wilding and Wilkie.

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Nuneaton made the journey to the Cross Keys, home of Hednesford Town for a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton scored in the first minute, following a beautiful bout of passing by the forwards, who slipped through the home defence like magic. McPhail centred to Robson, who kicked neatly into the net. Following their early success, Nuneaton kept up the pressure for a while and gave the home defence some trouble with Scott and Brindley initiating several attacks on the Hednesford goal.

Nuneaton missed a good chance when Nelson mis-kicked in front of goal before Hednesford hit back and Brown and Brookes were called into action, while Owen had to save several difficult shots. A fine centre by Wilkie called Owen into action again and just later an exciting scene developed around the Nuneaton goal when Owen was again called into action. At the other end, Robson almost got through following a centre by McPhail and Walker had to come out to Robson following a Brindley centre.

Hednesford continued to do the bulk of the attacking and Owen underwent a gruelling time, but came out with flying colours. He dealt with a long shot from Blunt before Wilkie forced Owen to concede a corner. The visitors continued to be hemmed in and Owen saved again from a free-kick on the edge of the area before making a full-length save following a terrific melee in front of the Nuneaton goal. Just before half-time Robson got away and drew out Webster, but the Hednesford keeper managed to stop him.

The second half began in even fashion, although Wilkie caused some problems and Brown was forced to clear. Dixon headed wide from McPhail's centre, as Nuneaton began to get on top with Brindley shooting wide from distance. Calder shot wide for the home side before Owen punched away a free-kick from just outside the penalty area. Blunt went close while at the other end Webster had to come out to stop McPhail. Nelson tried to force his way through, but to no avail.



Robson went very close and then failed to reach the ball after a move down the right. Robson and Nelson made a break, but Webster saved the day for the home side. A screw shot by Robson was cleared before Owen punched away a dangerous centre from Calder. Great work by Scott and Robson ended with the former testing Webster. Nuneaton were now having the better of the play and neat dribbling by Scott followed, but Dixon failed to profit. Martin shot over following good work from Wilkie and Hednesford kept up the pressure for a time, but could not make much impression on the Nuneaton defence. Owen punched away before the final whistle, as Nuneaton recorded their eleventh consecutive league win.

Nuneaton Town v Worcester City	22-12-1934
<p>Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.</p> <p>Worcester: Wright; Whitehouse and Jenkins; Kerr, Beecham and Godfrey; Lax, McNaught, Ketley, Coglein and Scriven.</p>	

Nuneaton welcomed Worcester City to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter.

Nuneaton attacked from the start, but the visitors quickly replied and Ketley shot wide before Dowsey cleared a dangerous cross from Lax. Town did the bulk of the attacking in the first half-hour, but were frustrated by the splendid work of the Worcester backs. Wright made an excellent save after which City transferred matters and Owen had to save from Ketley. Then came some exciting scenes around the Worcester goal following a free-kick from Wannacott, which Wright tipped over.

A succession of Nuneaton corners followed and Nelson was prominent, with Dixon also putting in some good work, making a good run after receiving a pass from Scott. Dixon went close before Brindley received an injury and had to leave the field, but returned after a few minutes. Seven minutes before the interval Worcester took the lead when Coglein's ground shot from Lax's centre found the net. Nuneaton hit back strongly and Nelson put in a great drive, which was dealt with by Wright, who made another great save from Robson a minute later. Just before half-time Nelson netted the equaliser from a quick break, which was followed by a powerful shot that gave Wright no chance.

Nuneaton attacked straight after the break and Wright had to field a long drive by Wannacott. Nuneaton put on severe pressure for a spell, but Worcester held their own. Dixon headed wide from a free-kick. There were some exciting scenes outside the Worcester goal as Nuneaton dominated and after 18 minutes of the second half they took the lead. From Dixon's centre, Scott headed goalwards, but Wright made a partial save which resulted in the ball going to Robson, who shot into the net.

City's goal was closely pressed on several occasions and McPhail put in some great work, but the inside men failed to profit, despite a great effort by Robson. Play was still confined to the City half and Wright had to save a long drive

by Nelson, before City made a dangerous break five minutes before the close, and then right on time, Keetley headed a goal following a free-kick by Kerr for a foul by Brookes on Lax.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United	25-12-1934
<p>Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Irons, Dowsey and Wannacott; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Carr and Dixon.</p> <p>Hinckley: Burdett; Goodger and Sharpe; Forrest, Tilbury and Middleton; Reeves, Ball, Young, Bruton and Davis.</p>	

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park on Christmas morning for the final of the Nuneaton Hospital Cup.

The first action saw Burdett save from Robson's header while at the other end Owen was tested. Davis was stopped by Brown and McPhail shot just over from Dixon's centre. Wannacott shot just wide before an exciting scene developed around the Hinckley goal. Young went close before brilliant work by McPhail saw Burdett just get the ball away from Robson. After 15 minutes, Hinckley took the lead when Davis got clean away, cut in, and with only Owen to beat, screwed the ball into the far corner of the net.

Owen had to come out to prevent a certain goal as United looked to extend their lead. Nuneaton pressed, but Hinckley packed their goal and Tilbury defended well. At the other end Dowsey stopped a raid, but United were soon menacing again and Davis was prominent. Burdett saved from Dixon, while Young worried the home defence and shot wide. Robson headed against the woodwork from a nice centre from Wannacott.

Town equalised after 35 minutes when McPhail beat his man and centred for Dixon to score. Nuneaton pressed repeatedly and Robson went close before Carr just missed with a beautiful drive. Play was unnecessarily rough at times and there were some regrettable incidents. Robson was in the wars, and was seen on one occasion to be struck in the face by a visiting defender.

Owen was called into action on several occasions after the break, while Goodger kicked back to Burdett to prevent Robson getting through. Nelson got a header in before Robson bustled Burdett and there were thrills outside the United goal. Nuneaton took the lead ten minutes after the break, when Robson headed just inside the post from a centre from the right. Ball made a neat effort for Hinckley, while Robson bored his way through and passed to Dixon, who was unable to get the ball back across the goal.

Dowsey and Brown rushed across to stop Reeves, as Owen ran out at the same time and all four collided. Reeves and Owen received treatment, but were able to continue. Owen saved from Ball, while Dixon hit the post for Nuneaton. Wannacott's free-kick brought Burdett to his knees before Robson missed a sitter with just the keeper to beat. Nelson and Dixon both went close following good work from McPhail and Burdett tipped over a header from Robson. Nelson put Nuneaton further ahead, shooting through a crowd of players

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before Nuneaton carried out a grand move right down the field and Dixon centred for Nelson to bang the ball into the net with just a minute or two left.

Hinckley United v Nuneaton Town 26-12-1934

Hinckley: Burdett; Goodger and Sharpe; Forrest, Carrigan and Middleton; J. Harvey, Ball, Young, Tilbury and Davis.

Nuneaton: Wannacott; Brown and Brookes; Irons, Dowsey and Sparrow; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Nuneaton travelled to The Holywell to take on Hinckley United in the final of the Hinckley Hospital Cup.

The early exchanges favoured Nuneaton, but Hinckley took the lead after seven minutes, when Ball swung the ball out to the right and it was centred for Davis to score with a fine shot. Nuneaton were penned in for quite a while and Owen saved an awkward situation. Robson harassed the home defence while at the other end a long shot by Tilbury was easily dealt with. Sparrow drove back a home attack before McPhail got in a centre for Irons to shoot over.

Dowsey stopped a formidable looking home effort and McPhail broke well, but was beaten by the ball. Robson shot over and Burdett made a great save from Scott, and then saved well from Nelson. Davis centred for Young to test Owen, while Burdett punched away. Wannacott made a good save from Davis before Hinckley defended well up to the break, although Nelson broke thorough, but finished poorly.

Robson almost got through straight after the break before Harvey got away and centred, but Young missed the chance. Robson headed just wide before Nuneaton's goal had a narrow escape. Davis shot high over the bar from a corner, while Nuneaton continued to press and won a free-kick and a corner in quick succession, Scott heading wide from the corner. Nuneaton's superiority saw them win corner after corner and good work by Nelson and Dixon brought the home goal into danger. Town had a narrow escape towards the end when Wannacott failed to gather the ball and Young hit the post.

Stafford Rangers v Nuneaton Town 29-12-1934

Stafford: Partridge; Bellamy and Bliss; S. Horton, Elkes and Moss; Carter, H. Horton, Payne, Cameron and Callaghan.

Nuneaton: R. Evans; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Nuneaton made the journey to take on Stafford Rangers in a Birmingham League match.

Stafford attacked from the off and Brookes was called on to relieve twice in quick succession. Nuneaton retaliated and Brindley put in some good work, eventually shooting wide. Stafford missed a chance to take the lead when Payne and Callaghan both missed an open goal. Nuneaton were penned in for a while and Brookes stemmed a likely effort on the right. Evans was called on to handle once or twice, but was not seriously tested. Nelson initiated a Nuneaton raid from which Dixon shot over. Good work from Dixon and Brindley

failed to open up Stafford's defence and the home team forced two corners, which came to nothing.

Robson got away and shot wide before Nuneaton's attack improved markedly and Nelson put in a good effort, while Robson began to look menacing. Dowsey shot over the bar before Stafford hit back, with Brown and Brookes defending well. Robson tried to break, but was outnumbered, before Stafford severely tested Nuneaton's defence, in which Evans and Dowsey put in some sterling work. Partridge made an excellent save from Robson at the expense of a corner, from which Scott had his header saved. Nelson tried to rush a goal and Callaghan kicked the ball on top of the bar of his own goal, with the ball bouncing back into play.

Straight after the break McPhail's centre went begging and Evans made a good save from Cameron. Five minutes after half-time Stafford took the lead when Horton headed towards goal, and Brown headed away, but Callaghan seized on the ball and netted with a superb drive. Afterwards Scott put Robson through, but the centre-forward shot over.

Town equalised 12 minutes after the break, following McPhail's free-kick, which was breasted into the net by Scott. Nuneaton looked strong at this point and should have taken the lead when Dixon put in a centre for Scott, who ought to have scored. Robson shot over the bar again and was robbed just after, when close in. Evans pulled off a good save from Carter.

There were some exciting scenes around the Nuneaton goal and Cameron made a great forcing effort. Stafford regained the lead 25 minutes after the interval. Ellis took aim from about 35 yards' range, driving the ball into the net through a crowd of players. Nuneaton equalised five minutes later when Dixon took the ball upfield and centred to McPhail, who scored with a left-footer which hit the post on the way into goal. Dixon worked another opening and Rangers escaped from a scramble in front of goal. Nuneaton had to survive a warm onslaught in the closing stages of the match.

Cradley Heath v Nuneaton Town 05-01-1935

Cradley: Perkins; Clancy and Bridgewater; Johnson, Davenport and Hodgkiss; Blackham, Dunn, Froggatt, Caddick and Banks.

Nuneaton: Evans; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Nuneaton made the journey to Cradley Heath for a Birmingham League match.

Cradley attacked from the start and Danks missed an open goal, while two or three other chances were wasted. Town retaliated and McPhail caused the Cradley defence problems with a fine cross. Brown drove back the home side before Nuneaton took play to the other end where Scott headed wide. Shortly after Nelson shot over the bar from McPhail's centre. Nuneaton had more than held their own up to this point, but Cradley now began to show marked superiority, and Brookes had to clear from several rapid raids from the home team.



Nuneaton eventually came back into the game and Nelson shot wide, while Scott put a header wide of the post. Danks gave the Nuneaton defence a good deal of trouble, and Evans had to make a save from the aforementioned. The game was 30 minutes old when Cradley took the lead through Caddick, who sent in a stinging shot which gave Evans no chance. The home team attacked with renewed vigour following the goal and rained in shots, one of which hit the post. In the latter stages of the first half, Nuneaton had more of the play and shots were put in by Scott and Dixon.

Town attacked strongly after the break and a centre by Dixon had to be cleared, then McPhail shot wide. A nice centre by Dixon was wasted, but there was an exciting scene outside the home goal. Cradley were very menacing for a spell, but the Town defence proved safe, with Brookes distinguishing himself. Evans made a great save from Danks, and at the other end Robson and Dixon caused trouble.

Play was keen and full of excitement as Brindley passed out to Dixon, who was outnumbered. Good work by Dixon followed, who could have shot, but chose to centre. Play was in the home territory for a time, with the home side having had to rearrange due an injury to Bridgewater. Scott and Dixon tried hard to bring about an equaliser. Davenport stopped a dangerous raid and play swung to the other end, but Evans was not seriously tested. Nuneaton continued to press, but nothing seemed to go right for them.

Dixon got in a centre, but nothing materialised, while Evans played well during a Cradley onslaught. Nuneaton tried hard for an equaliser, but Heath defenders were quick in intercepting. Scott made a fine effort towards the close, and Nuneaton had two corners, from the second of which Wannacott shot wide.

Unpleasant Incident at Cradley

There was an unpleasant incident during the second half of Saturday's game at Cradley Heath, when the ball went among the spectators, and one of them returned the ball forcibly and struck Robson on the head. Robson seemed under the impression that the home supporter had done it deliberately and ran off the field and struck him. At the end of the match, Cradley supporters marched on to the field and surrounded Robson, who had to be escorted off the pitch by the police.

Nuneaton Town v Cannock Town 12-01-1935

Nuneaton: Evans; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Porter.

Cannock: Painter; Westwood and Talbot; Allen, Latham and Burdett; Brace, Marlow, Jones, Marlow and Corbett.

Nuneaton welcomed Cannock Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture. The ground was covered in snow and ball control was very difficult.

Neat dribbling by Robson was a feature of the early play and Porter made good use of his first opportunity, putting in a smashing shot which resulted in a corner. Wannacott and McPhail co-operated well in another Nuneaton raid and Painter had to save two or three times. Cannock defended well under constant pressure, but Painter was rather uncertain at times. Cannock found it difficult to get out of their own half, but did eventually set up an attack, which was repulsed by Brookes. Nelson put a shot over the bar, before Nuneaton took the lead on 20 minutes, following an attack down the left which saw Nelson take the ball in and score with a low shot from close range, with Painter diving in vain.

Nuneaton continued to dominate and Dowsey took a hand in attack, with Porter going close with a downward header. It was at this point that Cannock had their first look in when a faulty clearance by Brown gave them a chance, but Brookes tidied up by kicking clear. Scott supplied Porter with an excellent pass and the latter centred for Robson to miss an open goal. Robson sent in a shot a little later which produced a corner, and play continued in the Cannock half.

Porter put in some good work for Nuneaton in the latter stages of the first-half, and once got away and beat two defenders, before testing Painter. There were exciting scenes outside the Cannock goal and Scott put Nuneaton further ahead just before the interval, the keeper just getting down too late.

Cannock were totally overwhelmed in the second half, and although they made one or two raids, they could make little impression on the strong home defence. Porter was again in evidence, but showed a tendency to hang on to the ball too long. Dowsey showed coolness and skill during a Cannock raid.

Then came the most exciting part of the game, Nelson scoring three times in four minutes. The second half had been in progress 27 minutes when Nuneaton increased their lead. The goalkeeper came out to stop an attack in the centre and Nelson tapped the ball past him into the net. On 30 minutes Nelson scored with a shot under the bar and less than a minute later he scored again with a low shot into the corner. In the closing stages Nuneaton were shooting repeatedly and with three minutes to go Nelson, with a clear opening, took deliberate aim and scored with an unerring shot high into the net.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham Trams 19-01-1935

Nuneaton: Evans; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Dixon, Carr and Porter.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham Trams to Manor Park for a Birmingham Senior Cup semi-final tie.

The game swung from end-to-end in the early stages and shots were put in by Porter for Nuneaton, and Evans for Trams. The visitors had the better of things for a while and the home defence was kept busy, Dowsey putting in some good work. Stevenson, the Trams' outside right, sent in two shots, the first going over the bar and the second wide.



Nuneaton took the lead on 15 minutes when Dixon headed into the net from a beautiful centre from McPhail. Nuneaton continued to put on pressure and shots were sent in by Nelson, Dixon and Dowsey. The home team increased their lead after 25 minutes when Porter worked his way up to the line and centred nicely for Dixon to turn the ball into the net.

Town kept attacking and Clewlow had to tip over from Carr's shot, and had to do the same again from another of Carr's drives. Trams retaliated but were rather erratic. Evans made a tremendous save from Elliott and again straight after from Delaney. Nelson tested Clewlow following a corner, while Carr put in some neat touches and was feeding Porter well. Trams right-back let Nuneaton in again and Dixon touched the ball on to Porter, who failed to test Clewlow.

The gruelling time Trams' defence had in the first half began to tell after the break and not many minutes into the half, Nuneaton were all over their opponents. Twenty minutes into the second half Nuneaton increased their lead when Dixon screwed the ball into the net, following a corner. Clewlow dived full length, but too late, and the ball went under him.

Five minutes later Dixon headed another goal and the visitors were now hemmed in. Shots were put in by Wannacott and McPhail. Eight minutes from the end McPhail took the ball through on his own and finished by planting the ball into the net. Dixon beat his opponent, and passed to the left, but Porter failed to make good. Three or four minutes from the end, Dowsey sent Dixon away, who made a dash for goal and proved too quick for Clewlow, scoring with a good shot.

Oswestry Town v Nuneaton Town 24-01-1935

Nuneaton: Evans; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Dixon, Carr and Porter.

Nuneaton made the journey to Oswestry Town on Thursday for a Birmingham League fixture.

The visitors did themselves a good turn in their quest for Championship honours by bringing back two points from Oswestry yesterday.

At one period in the game the visitors were two goals in arrears but, fighting back pluckily, they reduced the lead before half-time, and then, in the second half, as a result of excellent combination, netted two more to win the game by the odd goal in five.

Oswestry opened the game very promisingly and encouraged by two goals in the first twenty minutes, looked likely to be the second team to lower the "Nuns" colours this season. But Nuneaton thought differently.

Instead of being disheartened they faced their task with courage and determination and the goal they obtained later on in the first half put them on their mettle and gave them the encouragement they needed.

They played very soundly after the change of ends, got on

level terms and then went ahead to gain a really meritorious victory. Robson's brief absence from the side seemed to have done him good – a rest was probably what he needed – and he scored two good goals. Nelson got the other.

Oswestry opened the scoring a quarter of an hour from the start, an attack on the left culminating in Howell, a schoolboy player, who was figuring at outside right, neatly netting. Evans was a fault when the same player scored again five minutes later. The winger's shot was a good one, but the goalkeeper seemed to have it covered and should have prevented it from entering the net.

A capital raid by Nuneaton brought a goal. Nelson raced up the field and then placed the ball into the centre for Robson to meet it and place well into the net.

The "Nuns" met with stubborn resistance in the second half, but their persistency told its tale and first Robson equalised and then Nelson gave them victory.

Nuneaton Town v Oakengates Town 26-01-1935

Nuneaton: Evans; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Carr and Dixon.

Oakengates: Goodchild; Keene and Biddulph; Evans, Chambers and Butler; Fraser, J. Pearce, R. Pearce and Bullock.

Nuneaton welcomed bottom-of-the-table Oakengates Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture.

Oakengates were first to attack, but Brown cleared, before Nuneaton hit back and Oakengates escaped from a free-kick in their own half. Carr headed wide from McPhail's flag-kick, before Carr and McPhail were prominent and Dixon shot over. Fraser shot wide for the visitors. The wind played some curious tricks with the ball and much amusement was caused among the spectators. Fraser again shot wide for Oakengates before Carr performed a clever dribble, but his pass was too hard for Dixon to reach. The visitors had a fruitless corner on the left, but they were dangerous for a spell and Evans had to punch out for a corner.

Nuneaton set up an exciting onslaught which ended in a corner, from which Carr tested Goodchild with a downward header. Robson shot wide from Dixon's pass before Oakengates attacked and a melee developed in front of the home goal. Evans made a good save from R. Pearce, while Robson shot over, and then another excellent effort led to Goodchild coming out and being rather lucky to save. The home goal had a narrow escape just before the interval.

In the second half, Nuneaton, aided by the wind, hemmed their opponents in. Dowsey checked the visitors in midfield and set Dixon going and Robson attempted to turn the ball in from the winger's centre. Brookes came up and put in a good shot, while Robson tested Goodchild with a volley. There was an exciting tussle in front of the Oakengates goal following a free-kick for a foul on Dowsey. Brindley shot wide with a long volley and Robson also missed.



A great centre by Dixon should have enabled either Robson or McPhail to score, but nothing resulted. Goodchild made a good save from Carr and made another from Nelson. Robson put the ball wide before Biddulph made a good run from midfield, but Nuneaton averted disaster. Oakengates were penned in during the closing stages, and there was a tussle in front of their goal following a corner on the left. The visitors did a lot of kicking about in the closing stages. With about two minutes to go, a centre came in from Nuneaton's right and Robson headed the ball into the net, just inside the post. Dixon scored a second just before the close.

Damage to Football Stand

The top of the newest of the three stands at the Manor Park Football Ground, Nuneaton, was torn off by the force of the wind on Saturday.

The incident occurred about noon and caused some alarm among passers-by, the huge piece of corrugated iron and wood being lifted into the air and blown into the roadway. A part of the wooden fencing screening the ground from the Cock and Bear hill was demolished and the telegraph wires broken. Several factory girls who were walking up the hill at the time had a narrow escape from being struck by the jagged piece of metal. It was fortunate that there were no vehicles about at the time or there would undoubtedly have been a nasty accident.

Men were immediately engaged in clearing up the debris, the remains of the stand being removed to the ground. The stand was only erected last season from funds raised by the Nuneaton Town FC Supporters' Club.

Stourbridge v Nuneaton Town 02-02-1935

Nuneaton: Wannacott; Brown and Brookes; Nelson, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Scott, Robson, Carr and Dixon.

Nuneaton travelled to Stourbridge to take on the "Glassboys" in a Birmingham League game. Buck, signed from Hinckley United to deputise for Owen, failed to turn up and Wannacott had to take over in goal.

Town had the advantage of the wind and showed up well in the early stages, but their goal had a narrow escape. The visitors almost scored as Scott centred and Dixon made a good attempt to head the ball in. Styles made a good save from McPhail and Carr got in a good shot. Stourbridge began to assert themselves and Brown and Brookes were kept busy, while Wannacott made two good saves. Stourbridge took the lead on 25 minutes when Morton shot home, although Town protested that the ball had not crossed the line as Dowsey headed away.

The game was full of thrills, with Stourbridge having the best of matters. Wannacott made a good save from Morton and the play was fast. Bowden cleared following a quick Nuneaton move before Stourbridge increased their lead after

34 minutes, Wombwell heading home a centre by Morton. Just before the interval Robson passed out to McPhail, who centred for Dixon to head goalwards, but Edwards saved a certain goal by heading clear.

Nuneaton remained on the defensive in the second half and their forwards were rarely in the picture. From a shot by Gardner, Wannacott failed to get the ball properly, but Dowsey kicked away in the nick of time. Edwards headed into the net about 17 minutes after the break, but the goal was disallowed for offside. About 20 minutes after the interval, Edwards beat Dowsey and centred for Morton to head a good goal.

Town made no progress and were forced to defend, although Nelson tried to force an opening and Robson was threatening for a moment. Scott tried in vain to get the ball to Robson, and a shot by McPhail grazed the bar before Dixon shot wide. Wannacott was twice called on to save before Brown repelled another onslaught. The same player failed to stop the next attack, but luckily the home side were given offside.

Wannacott kicked away from Edwards and then McPhail almost grazed the bar. Wannacott got the ball away following a shot from the right and then Brindley tested Styles. Brindley then brought off a great tackle near the goal and Robson just missed when a goal seemed certain.

Nuneaton Town v Leamington Town 09-02-1935

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Wales, Scott and Dixon.

Leamington: Handy; Sabin and Cole; Shanks, Green and Hughes; Askew, Metherell, Spencer, Taylor and Cooper.

Nuneaton welcomed Leamington Town to Manor Park for a Leamington Hospital Cup semi-final tie. George Green, who was transferred from Nuneaton to Sheffield United, was in the Leamington side.

Nuneaton pressed at the start, but Leamington quickly retaliated and took the lead after three minutes when Brown failed to clear and Cooper scored a simple goal. The game developed into an interesting struggle with Nuneaton trying hard for an equaliser. Exciting scenes were witnessed in front of both goals. Nelson shot over for Nuneaton before Leamington pressed again and were shooting in for a time.

Spencer hit the post with an oblique shot before the Leamington defence was besieged for a spell with several shots being fired in, and a volley from McPhail produced a corner. Shots were fired in by Scott and Nelson as Nuneaton fought back. Wannacott tested Handy, who made a great save. The home defence had a gruelling spell, but transferred play and Handy punched out for a corner.

Green kept an effective watch on Wales and also opened out the game well. Nuneaton pressed for a while, but the "Magpies" defended with great spirit and skill. Close on the interval Cooper centred beautifully and Taylor, gathering the ball, was able to beat Owen, who he cleverly tricked.

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Nuneaton pressed on the restart, and following a throw-in, McPhail centred well, but Wale was overwhelmed. Handy saved at the expense of a corner and Town now monopolised play, being determined to reduce the deficit. Handy had to save from Scott, before a passing bout in front of the Leamington goal led to Handy having to tip over from Wale. Nelson sent McPhail away, and the latter's centre was partially cleared, Wale trying hard to turn the ball in.

McPhail had to retire because of injury and failed to resume. Dixon went centre-forward and Wale outside-right. From a throw-in Scott sent wide, and just after Brindley went close. Dowsey shot over as Nuneaton had all the play for a time. Cooper got away and put in a fine oblique shot that won a corner and just after another shot from Cooper produced a corner that Dowsey headed out.

Wale's centre resulted in a tussle in the area before another dash by Cooper had to be dealt with. Wale made a plucky run for Nuneaton, but was brought down when nearing goal. Brookes tested Handy with a great shot before Nuneaton reduced the deficit 35 minutes after the restart. Brindley put in a fine shot for Nelson to help the ball into the net. A little later Handy escaped from being bundled over the line by Scott. Wale narrowly missed with a first-timer and both goals had narrow escapes in the closing minutes.

Nuneaton Town v Colwyn Bay 16-02-1935

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Irons, Dowsey and Wannacott; Lawrence, Nelson, Robson, Carr and Dixon.

Colwyn Bay: Elliott; F. Edwards and W. H. Edwards; Davis, Dandy and Fairhurst; Fyles, Smith, Duncan, Canfield and Williams.

Nuneaton welcomed Colwyn Bay to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match. The weather conditions spoiled the match with a high wind and rain throughout, which turned the pitch into a sodden state.

Colwyn Bay were first to attack, but Nuneaton soon hit back and Robson shot over the bar. The home defence shaped up well, but Duncan tested Owen. Nuneaton had everything their own way at this stage and Carr put in a good drive from a free-kick. The same player won a corner, and from Dixon's flag-kick Wannacott headed wide. Elliott had to save a fine drive by Robson and the Bay were continually on the defensive, although their backs defended well under pressure.

The game was 23 minutes old when Nuneaton took the lead. Lawrence centred and Dandy miskicked, for Nelson to dart in and beat the keeper with a fine drive. Nuneaton remained on top and Elliott had to save from Dixon, and Robson shot over the bar. Some neat work between Carr and Dixon followed and it was in this move that Dixon was hurt. He received attention by ambulance men but had to retire. Colwyn Bay defended for the rest of the half and there were some exciting scenes in front of their goal.

Five minutes after the break, Nuneaton increased their lead from a penalty. Dandy was adjudged to have handled the ball

and Robson smashed the penalty kick home. Three minutes later Williams reduced the margin with a shot into the corner of the net. Duncan shot over for the visitors before Nuneaton transferred play and Dixon tested Elliott with a terrific drive.

Bay equalised after 28 minutes of the second half. Following a tussle in front of the home goal, Dandy took aim from about 15 yards and found the net, following a free kick. The visitors were having the bulk of the play, but then Nuneaton asserted themselves in the last few minutes. Following a move on the left, Nelson received the ball and netted with a surprise shot.

Nuneaton Town v Bangor City 23-02-1935

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Bangor City: Burrows; Johnston and Hellier; W. Roberts, Murray and Bumford; Hodder, F. Williams, Ball, Rogers and Owen.

Nuneaton welcomed Bangor City to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game.

It took the home side a while to settle and Bangor played the better football for the first 20 minutes. After this, however, Nuneaton monopolised the exchanges for the most part. The reason Town did not win by a greater margin was largely due to the performance of Burrows in the Bangor goal. A better display has not been seen at Manor Park this season and time and again he won the plaudits of the crowd.

Nuneaton took the lead after 33 minutes when McPhail headed the ball across the area for Nelson, who sent in a stinging volley that went into the net just under the bar. It was a superb shot that gave Burrows no chance at all.

The second half opened with Nelson and Dixon testing Burrows. A scramble or two in front of the City goal provided excitement and Burrows made a fine save from Wannacott. Bangor began to improve and made desperate efforts to score an equaliser, but they were well held by the Nuneaton defence. The only chance of Bangor scoring seemed in their making a breakaway, but they did not succeed in performing this feat.

The game tamed down considerably towards the end and the home forwards petered out disappointingly, their efforts lacking quickness and method.

It was in the half-back line that Nuneaton really shone, the great work of Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley being a feature of the match. Wannacott in particular gave a magnificent performance and worked like a Trojan. The home backs gave no cause for complaint, while Owen was safe in goal and brought off one or two good saves.

Nuneaton Town v Cradley Heath 02-03-1935

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Cradley Heath: Perkins; Clansey and Bridgwater; Johnson, Davenport and Hopkiss; Blackham, Howells, Dunn, Caddick and Danks.

Nuneaton welcomed Cradley Heath to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture. There was a crowd of over 2,000.

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Scott and McPhail were prominent early on, and all the exchanges were fought at a fast pace. Cradley pressed and Owen was called on to save from Caddick. Nuneaton then attacked and Dixon put in a shot from a neat pass by Scott. Brindley made a great effort to improve matters for Town, but was pulled up in the vicinity of goal. For a time the game went in favour of Nuneaton and there was an exciting and prolonged tussle in front of the Cradley goal, but the visitors' defence kept Nuneaton at bay.

Cradley attacked strongly, but broke down in front of goal and missed a good chance. Cradley attacked again, and Wannacott spoiled their efforts. Good work by McPhail and Scott led to Dixon being just prevented from shooting by a Cradley defender. The game swung rapidly from end to end, and Nuneaton took the lead after about 30 minutes. The ball was tapped about in front of the Cradley goal for a few moments, and eventually went towards the right, Wannacott meeting it and driving it through the players and into the net.

Nuneaton continued to have the better of the play and increased their lead five minutes later. McPhail centred, and Scott, who had to turn round to shoot, scored with a clever volley. Shortly before the interval the visitors reduced the lead with a rather lucky goal. Dunn beat Brookes and scored with a shot from long range, which Owen ought to have saved.

A brilliant bout of passing between Scott and Dixon led to McPhail, with a good opening, finding the net 24 minutes after the break, and seven minutes later Nuneaton scored again. The Cradley defence failed to stop Nelson, and Dixon got clean away. Perkins came out to endeavour to stop him, but Dixon put the ball past him into the net. About five minutes later, from a home attack, McPhail hit the post and from the rebound Nelson drove the ball into the net.

Robson Found To Have Torn Ligament

Joe Robson, the Nuneaton Town FC centre-forward, who was injured in the match with Cradley Heath on Saturday, at Manor Park, was found to have torn a ligament at the back of the knee, it reported to be improving, but it is stated to be doubtful at the moment whether he will be able to play for about another fortnight. It is therefore considered unlikely that he will play on Saturday against Wellington. Steps are being taken, however, by the Nuneaton Club management to make sure that the attack will be made as strong as possible in the absence of Robson.

Nuneaton Town v Wellington Town 09-03-1935

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Dixon, Scott and Davis.

Wellington: Hampton; Bucknall and Buxton; Turner, Cawley and Allan; Whitehouse, Meaney, Griffiths, Tew and Warrilow.

Nuneaton Town welcomed the league leaders Wellington Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. More than 3,000 spectators turned out on a bitterly cold day to see

the 'match of the season,' with a large contingent travelling from Wellington.

Nuneaton were taken unawares by Wellington's lightning quick start and the visitors went into the lead after just two minutes. Allan centred the ball almost into the mouth of the goal and the ball ended up in the net. A little later Griffiths netted again, but was given offside. Nuneaton equalised after 17 minutes with a penalty, awarded for handball by Bucknall. Wannacott took the spot kick and drove the ball into the net, just inside the post.

After this success Nuneaton monopolised the play for a time, but eventually Wellington got away, and the visitors' fast methods and quick parting with the ball kept the home defence busy. The play swung from end-to-end and there were exciting moments in front of both goals, but Nuneaton had the bulk of the play and Wellington were rather fortunate to be on level terms at the interval.

Although Nuneaton had their own way in the early stages of the second half, Wellington were the first to score. It was rather a surprise goal, and came when the visitors made a breakaway on the left after being hard pressed. From a shot by Warrilow, the ball went off Brookes into the net. Owen, in his efforts to save, seeming only to succeed in punching the ball towards the corner of the net.

Nuneaton equalised after 28 minutes of the second half when, following a great scramble in front of the goal, McPhail put the ball into the net with a fast volley. After this, Nuneaton played valiantly, and although Wellington were threatening on several occasions, the home side had the better of matters. There were several exciting tussles in front of the Wellington goal and it seemed that Nuneaton could do anything but score. Only the superb efforts of Hampton saved the visitors from disaster. In the last minute Wellington set up a raid and the spectators had a thrill when Meaney hit the bar.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City A 16-03-1935

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Dixon, Scott and Davis.

Birmingham A: G. W. Cooper; Hubbard and J. Pemberton; H. Somers, Butler and A. Derbyshire; Green, Pearce, Small, James and Bulger.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham City A to Manor Park for a Coventry Nursing Cup semi-final replay.

Nuneaton attacked straight from the kick-off, Wannacott initiating an early raid from which Cooper had to save. Owen was visited, but played well and Nuneaton were soon on the attack again. Dixon shot wide and a little later McPhail centred and Dixon made straight for goal, but was stopped by a back. Davis was much in evidence in the Nuneaton attack, showing great speed as did McPhail. Eventually Davis tested Cooper with a splendid volley, which was followed by some clever work by Dixon.

Nuneaton kept a good grip on the City forwards, with Wannacott and Dowsey putting in some excellent work.



Birmingham attacked and their neat footwork and ball control created an opening with Bulger sending in a stinging shot that Owen saved near the post. An exciting tussle in front of the visitors' goal resulted in Scott testing Cooper, who was also called upon to save a terrific volley from Davis. In the last few minutes of the first half Cooper had a very busy time, having to save at full-length from Dixon, brilliantly tipping over a shot from McPhail and saving a header from close range by Dixon.

Nuneaton took the lead three minutes before the interval. Dixon received a pass from the right and sent McPhail through with a forward pass. McPhail took full advantage of the opportunity and netted a neat goal.

In the early stages of the second half, Birmingham's attack kept the home defence busy for a spell and Owen saved from Bulger. After 13 minutes of the second half, Nuneaton increased their lead when a centre from the left, led to the ball being tapped around in front of goal and Nelson headed into the net at the near post, with Cooper making no attempt to save.

Immediately afterwards Birmingham missed a golden opportunity when Small, with an open goal, lobbed the ball tamely over. Nuneaton extended their lead after 33 minutes of the second half. Good work by both wingers led to Nelson having a shooting chance, and the inside-right beat Cooper with a great volley. Nuneaton continued to monopolise play, but with ten minutes to go, Bulger got past Dowsey and had a clear run in. He took aim and Brookes stopped the ball, but kicked it straight into his own net.

Wrexham Reserves v Nuneaton Town 20-03-1935

Wrexham: Foster; Evans and Williams; Jones, Lewis and Lawrence; Perry, Love, Rice, Findley and Weale.

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Tromans, Nelson, Dixon and Davies.

Nuneaton travelled to Wrexham on Wednesday to play a Birmingham League fixture at The Racecourse Ground.

Nuneaton accomplished another very fine performance when they visited the league champions and defeated them by the odd goal in five. The visitors, who had Taft in goal for Owen and Tromans at inside-right, played smart football, especially in the first half when, after Wrexham had scored an early goal, they replied with three goals without response. Wrexham tried hard to save the game in the second half, and although they scored a second goal 15 minutes from the end, were unable to find an equaliser.

Nuneaton's victory puts them level on points with second-placed Kidderminster, with three games in hand. The championship looks to be between Nuneaton and Wellington and if the "Nuns" continue to produce the form they did in this game there is going to be a rare fight for the honour.

Nuneaton were worthy winners, their forwards, well lead by Nelson who scored two brilliant goals, combined very effectively, while the defence was as strong as ever.

Wrexham took the lead after five minutes' play, Findlay netting after a shot by Rill had rebounded off Taft's legs, Nuneaton were soon on level terms, Tromans taking full advantage of an easy chance to equalise.

The game had been in progress for 20 minutes when the visitors took the lead. Neat work on the right wing was followed by a clever run by Nelson, who, after beating the backs, defeated Foster with a splendid drive. Five minutes later the same player scored another brilliant goal after receiving the ball from McPhail.

The second half favoured Wrexham. They did a lot of attacking and Taft, Brown and Brookes were constantly in action. They did their work finely, however, and beat off every assault, until 15 minutes from the end when Weale headed home a second goal for Wrexham.

Carr To Cease Managership

Considerable surprise was caused in local sporting circles this week through the announcement that Mr George Carr, who has been player-manager of Nuneaton Town FC for two seasons, will cease his official connection with the club at the end of the present season.

Mr W. Deans, Chairman of the club, has stated that the directors, owing to financial reasons, had been reluctantly compelled not to engage Mr Carr, or any manager, for next season. There was not the financial support to justify them in engaging a manager again. Gates at Manor Park had not come up to expectations, and there would probably be a loss on the season.

Mr Deans paid a tribute to the work of Mr Carr during his two seasons with the club. "He has done everything the directors asked him to do," he remarked, "and has done his utmost for the club, and it is with regret we have had to come to this decision."

Scott's Departure

Harry Scott, Nuneaton Town FC's tall inside-left, has asked to be released from his engagement with the club, owing to not being able to get away from business, and the directors have accepted his resignation.

Hereford United v Nuneaton Town 23-03-1935

Hereford: Blakemore; Ebson and Oliver; Evans, Presdie and Imbrey; Edwards, Summers, Rotton, Davies and Hann.

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Tromans, Nelson, Dixon and Davies.

Nuneaton made the journey to Hereford United for a Birmingham League game.

Dowsey repulsed a Hereford attack at the outset, and for a time play swung from end to end. A great centre by Davis was cleared with difficulty, and then Owen made a great save from Edwards. Soon afterwards Davis and Dowsey were

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again in the picture, the latter stemming a home raid in fine style. United had the greater share of the play in these early exchanges and Brown and Brookes performed well under constant pressure.

Davis got away for Nuneaton, but his pass to Dixon was intercepted. A galaxy of goals came when the game was a little under 30 minutes old. Following a free-kick for Nuneaton offside, Davies, the Hereford inside-left, took aim from about 20 yards and landed the ball into the net just under the bar. Nuneaton retaliated and Blakemore made an excellent save from McPhail. Hereford increased their lead after 33 minutes when Davies struck a shot against the upright and Summers shot into the net from the rebound.

Blakemore saved well from Tromans and Hereford returned to the attack, scoring again two or three minutes later. Hann was the scorer, the ball going in near the post. Owen threw himself forward in a vain attempt to save. About a minute later Wannacott centred and Nelson turned the ball into the net, Blakemore only being able to touch it as it went in. Nuneaton further reduced the margin two minutes later through Davis, who scored with a lightning volley into the top of the net.

Hereford pressed on the resumption and good work was put in for Nuneaton by Brindley and Wannacott. Soon afterwards, Nuneaton became very threatening and Davis got in a smashing volley, which Blakemore did well to save. Another piece of clever work by Davis almost produced a goal. Nuneaton who were quicker on the ball, had a good share of the play and kept Hereford on the defensive. The second half was 24 minutes old when McPhail put the ball across for Dowsey to nip in and net with a brilliant shot. After this, United pressed and Owen brought off two excellent saves in the closing stages.

Kidderminster Harriers v Nuneaton Town 30-03-1935

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; Lawrence, McPhail, Robson, Dixon and Davis.

Nuneaton travelled to Dudley to take on Kidderminster Harriers in the final of the Birmingham Senior Cup. There was a gate of about 7,000 with 1,000 travelling from Nuneaton. About 2-3,000 travelled from Kidderminster. The Mayors of Nuneaton, Dudley and Kidderminster were all present.

The first 30 minutes produced no score and during this period both teams had chances. McPhail, Lawrence and Dowsey were prominent for Town. During these early exchanges Kidderminster lost the services of Blake, their right back, for about ten minutes, and when he came back he went out to the right wing, but was more or less a passenger for the remainder of the game. The Harriers missed a glorious opportunity of scoring when Salters miskicked in front of goal.

Kidderminster took the lead with a surprise goal. Boswell, receiving from Bowden, who put in some good work, took aim, and the ball went into the top corner of the net, just out

of Owen's reach. After this success the Harriers played with renewed vigour and the Nuneaton defence had a gruelling time. Less than five minutes later Kidderminster scored again with a brilliant effort. Salters passed to the left and Bowden beat Owen with a magnificent oblique shot, the goalkeeper throwing himself towards the ball in a valiant effort to save. During the last few minutes of the first half Kidderminster attacked strongly and Owen had a hectic time. Nuneaton were lucky to be no more than two goals down at the break.

Town showed more promise after the break, keeping Harriers penned in their own half for a while, but Brookes let in Harriers and two corners resulted, with Boswell almost scoring from the second one. A lightning raid by the Harriers led to them increasing their lead after 12 minutes of the second half. Bowden centred for Boswell to score from close range. About two minutes later, Nuneaton reduced the deficit when Lawrence bundled the goalkeeper and the ball over the line.

Town had the upper hand for a while and Lawrence went close again as Town swarmed round the Harriers' goal. Twenty-six minutes into the second half, Harriers scored again. Bowden got through, took the ball in and shot, the ball rebounding off Owen for Boswell, who shot into the net. Soon, there was a great race for the ball between Brown and Blake, and a corner resulted. From Blake's flag-kick Dowsey was adjudged to have handled and a penalty was awarded with Birch scoring from the spot. Nuneaton pressed again before the close and Dixon scored from a centre by Lawrence.

Nuneaton Town v George Brindley XI 01-04-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Carr; Lawrence, Nelson, Willetts, Dixon and McPhail.

George Brindley XI: Pearson (Coventry) Junior International; Fletcher and Wilmott (Nuneaton); Screen (WBA) Junior International, Davenport (Cradley Heath) Junior International and Brindley (Nuneaton) Junior International; Kent (Atherstone), Stringer (Newdigate Colliery), Young (Hinckley), Hamblett (Atherstone) and Cope (Newdigate Colliery).

A benefit match for George Brindley, who has played for Nuneaton Town for several seasons, took place at Manor Park, on Monday evening, and a team selected by Brindley. A well-fought game resulted in a victory for Brindley's team by 2-1.

Brindley's team were first to press, but Nuneaton soon retaliated, and Dowsey sent over. A neat passing movement developed between Dixon and McPhail and the latter centred for Wilmott to relieve in fine style. Nuneaton conceded a corner which was cleared and soon after Willetts had a shot deflected by Screen. Cope forced a corner and the Nuneaton goal had a narrow escape. After 15 minutes, Brindley's side took the lead, Hamblett heading in. Nuneaton pressed after this set-back and McPhail sent in a nice shot which Pearson did well to save. Willetts then headed into the area and McPhail headed over. The game was 30 minutes old when Nuneaton equalised. Carr hooked the ball to Dixon, who scored easily, as the goalkeeper came out in vain.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Five minutes after the resumption, Cope put Brindley's side ahead again. The remainder of the game was of a ding-dong character, with both teams pressing in turn. There were nearly six hundred spectators.

Rhyl Athletic v Nuneaton Town 06-04-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Irons, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Dixon, Wannacott and Davis.

Nuneaton made the journey to Rhyl Athletic for a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton's defence was tested early on and it was due to the good work of Dowsey that matters were relieved for Nuneaton. It was not long before Rhyl were again dangerous and Broad, the home outside left, missed a good chance in front of goal. Dowsey tested the home keeper with a long volley, and an effort by Nelson to force a goal was frustrated.

There was not much to choose between the two sides, although Rhyl had more chances, although the chances came to nothing in the face of Town's experienced backs. Rhyl continued to fight gamely and threw the visitors' defence into disarray after Taft failed to gather a shot from close range, but Irons was able to clear. Brown put in some sterling work as the home side continued to cause problems. Nuneaton, however, should have taken the lead just before the interval. Davis got the ball and centred. Nelson put the ball forward to Wannacott, who shot well over when a goal seemed certain.

Soon after the break Dowsey cleared twice, as Nuneaton's defence had another busy spell. Town broke away and Nelson got the ball forward, but Allport prevented Wannacott from shooting. Brindley shot over before midfield play ruled for a time. Irons shot wide, while at the other end Brookes conceded a fruitless corner. Taft threw away under pressure from two home forwards before Davis showed a turn of speed, but could only shoot wide when harassed by two Rhyl defenders.

Nuneaton took the lead from the penalty spot after 25 minutes of the second half, when Irons was fouled by Walker in the penalty area and Wannacott scored from the spot with a shot just inside the post. Nuneaton's goal had a narrow escape when a shot by F. Roberts flashed across the goalmouth, with Taft appearing to touch it round for a corner. Davis burst from midfield and forced the keeper to save before some exciting scenes developed outside the Nuneaton goal. With 17 minutes to go Nuneaton broke through and Wannacott gave the visitors a 2-0 lead, with an easy goal.

Nuneaton Town v Brierley Hill Alliance 08-04-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Irons, Dowsey and Brindley; Lawrence, Nelson, Wannacott, Davis and Dixon.

Brierley Hill: Collins; Smart and Follis; Blunt, Homer and Whitehouse; Millington, Cadman, Dutton, Burns and Cartwright.

Nuneaton welcomed Brierley Hill Alliance to Manor Park on Monday evening for a Birmingham League fixture. There were

about 1,500 spectators. McPhail was kept out of the side following an injury at Rhyl and he was replaced by Lawrence.

Nuneaton were first to attack and Wannacott went close on two occasions before Brierley Hill won a corner, which Brown cleared. Wannacott shot over the bar as the visitors' defence had a worrying time. Town looked dangerous in front of goal and Collins did well to stop a shot from Nelson. Nuneaton went into the lead after 26 minutes when Nelson passed to Wannacott, who touched the ball to Dixon. The Nuneaton left-winger scored with a beautiful shot into the top of the net.

A nasty collision in midfield between Davis and Smart caused a brief stoppage, both being injured, but able to continue after treatment. Nuneaton scored again five minutes after their first goal, when Wannacott headed the ball to Lawrence, who darted in and shot a first-timer into the top of the net. Cartwright shot over for the visitors, while Dixon missed a good chance near the post. Davis shot into the side netting following a pass from Wannacott.

Nuneaton won a fruitless corner straight after the break, before Dixon hit the crossbar and from the rebound, Nuneaton did everything but score. Play was almost entirely in Alliance territory and Nelson headed in a third goal, eight minutes into the second half, from Dixon's centre.

Davis got through and passed to Wannacott, who just failed to get his foot to the ball. Alliance were seldom in the game and Nuneaton indulged in some spectacular passing bouts, including some good headwork. Taft had to deal with a long shot from the wing by Millington, and then saved at the foot of the post from Dutton. Dixon tested Collins from the wing before Lawrence got clean through and with only the keeper to beat, drove the ball over the bar.

Nuneaton Town v Shrewsbury Town 13-04-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Irons, Dowsey and Brindley; Lawrence, Nelson, Wannacott, Davis and Dixon.

Shrewsbury: Butcher; Holmes and Darrall; Bates, College and Roscamp; Clarke, B. Jones, W. Jones, Rigby and Hopley.

Nuneaton welcomed Shrewsbury Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture.

Nuneaton had most of the play for the first few minutes with Wannacott forcing a corner, following which Nelson tested Butcher and Wannacott shot wide. W. Jones threatened when Shrewsbury attacked, but he was tackled by Dowsey before he could shoot. Centres by Brindley saw the visitors' goal have some narrow escapes and Dixon hit the side netting from a centre by Lawrence. During another home raid the visiting goalkeeper fumbled the ball, and the Shrewsbury goal had a lucky escape. Nelson drove the ball over the bar from Dixon's centre and Wannacott missed by inches with a header.

Shrewsbury had a free-kick in home territory and Taft made two saved in succession before a shot from Nelson hit the post and bounced out of play.



At the start of the second half, Shrewsbury attacked strongly and a centre from the right led to W. Jones having an opening, but Brown luckily was able to block his shot close to goal. Brown swung the ball across to Dixon, who passed for Davis to shoot wide. Nuneaton missed another chance a couple of minutes later, Wannacott missing a sitter with only the keeper to beat, after being let in by one of the visiting backs. The keeper was able to tip the ball over the bar.

Wannacott forced a corner from which an exciting tussle developed, and just after Shrewsbury escaped from a free-kick in their own territory, given for a foul on Lawrence. A volley by Nelson produced a corner from which Dixon headed wide. Shrewsbury had two corners on the left which came to nothing. Lawrence flashed the ball across the mouth of the goal and Davis put the ball wide of an open goal.

Cannock Town v Nuneaton Town 15-04-1935

Cannock: Painter; Sambrooks and Hickenbotham; Green, Burdett and Yapp; Ireson, Corbett, Barker, Brough and Evans.

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; Irons, Nelson, Dixon, Carr and Davis.

Nuneaton made the journey to Cannock Town on Monday evening for a Birmingham League match.

Nuneaton opened promisingly, but Cannock got away, and after Brookes had checked them, Evans got in a good shot, which produced a corner, from which Brookes headed away. Carr put in useful passes, and Dowsey worked hard in defence. A neat pass by Davis saw Wannacott and Nelson get in one another's way when a good chance was on offer. Nuneaton pressed for some time and Painter was forced to save.

Dixon was back charged when going for goal, but no foul was awarded. The visitors' passing was good, and they had the better of play for a time. From a pass by Carr, Davis got away, but was prevented from shooting. Dixon was well supplied with passes, but was closely watched. Brookes had to concede a corner, but it was got away and Davis made a splendid dash, with a fruitless corner resulting. Painter saved a header by Dixon, who had received from Nelson, before Dixon screwed the ball wide of the post. Brindley shot over the bar from a free-kick.

Nuneaton attacked again on the right and Irons took aim from well out, and from a narrow angle. The ball sailed into the far top corner of the net with the goalkeeper grasping at thin air. The goal was scored just before the interval.

Twenty-eight minutes into the second half, a miskick by Yapp let Dixon clean through, and the latter made no mistake in banging the ball into the net. Irons headed the ball powerfully to the centre, for Dixon to make a good effort to turn the ball in. Nuneaton kept up the pressure and play was all in Cannock territory for a prolonged spell. The home team eventually had a look in, but finished weakly.

Nuneaton's win kept them well in the Championship race on 47 points, four behind Wellington with four matches in hand.

Burton Town v Nuneaton Town 19-04-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Willetts, Carr and Dixon.

Nuneaton made the journey to Burton Town on Good Friday for a Birmingham League fixture.

Nuneaton showed up well in the early stages and Nelson and Wannacott both went close. Burton pressed and inside-left, Halliday, went close with a tremendous drive. A shot by McCabe was blocked by Dowsey, before thrilling attacks took place at both ends and Mills missed an open goal for the home side. There was an exciting tussle following a Burton corner and the Burton pressed for a few minutes. Carr and Dowsey defended well, as did the full-backs, under continued pressure.

Burton still dictated the play and Marshment put the ball out to Torbet, and the latter centred for Halliday to score a good goal, a minute before the interval.

In the second half, Dixon went centre-forward for Nuneaton, with Willetts outside-left, but Burton still monopolised play. Dixon made an effort to head a goal from a pass by Nelson. Wannacott cleared from a corner, and the Nuneaton goal had several narrow escapes. Burton attacked with rapidity, and a good movement ended in McCabe sending over when a goal seemed certain. Burton missed another chance just after, and then the Burton goal had a narrow escape from a corner, the ball just rolling wide with the goalkeeper out of position.

With about six minutes to go, Burton increased their lead from a free-kick well in Nuneaton territory, which was taken by Brown. The kick found Marshment, who headed the ball into the Nuneaton net. Nuneaton tried Dowsey at centre-forward in the closing stages, but Burton continued on top.

Kidderminster Harriers v Nuneaton Town 20-04-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Brindley, Dowsey and Cobley; Lawrence, Nelson, Wannacott, Carr and Dixon.

Nuneaton made the journey to face Kidderminster Harriers in a Birmingham League match.

Both sides attacked in turn in the early stages of the game and there was little to choose between them. Kidderminster missed a golden opportunity when McFarlane stumbled as he was about to shoot from a good position. Brown and Brookes played well when Harriers looked dangerous, but eventually Boswell tested Taft with a downward header. The keeper fumbled the ball to give a fruitless corner.

Nuneaton took the lead after 29 minutes, following good work by Dixon on the left-wing, Wannacott got clean through and scored with a fine shot. Kidderminster hit back strongly and were not to be denied, equalising seven minutes later when Brookes failed to clear and let in Boswell, who netted with a fast, low shot. Play for the rest of the half was of an interesting character, and the teams went in at half-time with the score at 1-1.



On the resumption Kidderminster scored straight from the kick-off. Austin, Harriers outside-right, shot from good range, and Taft reached the ball and knocked it down, but the ball rolled into the net. The second half was all Kidderminster and for a prolonged spell, Nuneaton were penned in their own half. Taft was kept very busy and on one occasion he came out to stop Bowden, but failed to do so, and the Kidderminster player hooked the ball towards the net, where Dowsey made a good clearance.

Thirty minutes after the break Harriers won a free-kick, which was taken by Watson, the centre-half, who scored with a grand shot, Taft throwing himself full-length in vain. Nuneaton had a little more of the play towards the close, but Harriers were still the more dangerous side.

Nuneaton Town v Burton Town 22-04-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Dixon, Carr and Davis.

Burton: Sommerville; Williams and Birch; Rankin, Smith and A. Brown; Mills, McCabe, Marshment, Halliday and Torbett.

Nuneaton welcomed Burton Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture. There was a crowd of 3,000.

Burton were first to threaten, Taft clearing with Marshment close on him. After being hemmed in for a short spell, Nuneaton broke and Wannacott shot over. Sommerville punched away from Nelson, and the ball went to Davis, who was prevented from shooting. A centre by Nelson caused the Burton defence problems before Carr swung the ball out to McPhail, who centred for Dixon to pressurise the Burton defenders. McPhail put in a centre for Carr, who tried hard to force the ball into the net near the post.

Nuneaton continued to have the better of matters and there were exciting scenes around the Burton goal. Another good centre from McPhail failed to bear fruit. Taft saved from Torbett before a lightning centre by Nelson saw Dixon just fail as the ball flew across the mouth of the goal. McPhail shot wide following a scramble before the visitors hit back and Marshment shot over from Mills' centre.

Nuneaton monopolised play again, but were poor in front of goal. Wannacott headed over the bar before Burton threatened, but the home defence was sound. Taft conceded two corners which came to nothing, before a Mills' centre was wasted. At the other end Davis tried to screw the ball in from a narrow angle, but at the break there was no score.

In the second half a sliced clearance by Rankin went behind and from Davis' corner kick, Carr headed over. A long pass by McCabe sent Torbett away, but when he centred the ball, Brookes conceded a corner which was cleared. Burton were hemmed in their penalty area for some time and had a number of lucky escapes. Despite the heavy condition of the ground, the play was fast and interesting throughout.

A feature of the game was the fine defensive work of both sides under difficult conditions.

Nuneaton Town v Stafford Rangers 23-04-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Sparrow, Nelson, Davis and Dixon.

Nuneaton Town welcomed Stafford Rangers to Manor Park on Tuesday, for a Birmingham League encounter.

Town's chances of winning the league look pretty hopeless, as they look anything but a team struggling for honours. Even allowing for the fact that Brookes was injured and throughout the second half hobbled about at outside right, Nuneaton's display was terribly weak. Once again, it was the same old story – weak forwards. The attack has gone completely to pieces; there is no combination, no thrust and very little shooting ability in the line – and far too much hanging on to the ball.

Stafford, who are lowly placed, gave a hard-working display, but their backs spoilt the game by playing well up field and continually catching the home forwards offside. Still, Nelson and his colleagues were just as much to blame for falling into the trap so easily. They walked into it like lambs going to slaughter and made little or no attempt to overcome it.

Probably feeling the effects of a strenuous holiday, the Town defence was not up to its usual high standard and hesitancy to go into a first-time tackle often resulted in the backs and halves being beaten. Stafford were far more enthusiastic in their work and well deserved that last minute goal.

Brown and Dowsey were the best two members of the Nuneaton defence, while McPhail and Dixon were fair forwards. On the Stafford side, Bellamy and Elkes defended well and Pepper was their best forward.

Nuneaton led 2-0 at half time with Nelson and Dixon being the scorers. Pepper reduced the lead in the second half and then Dixon got a third. Pepper came along with a second for the Rangers.

Wellington Town v Nuneaton Town 27-04-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Cobley; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Young, Davis and Dixon.

Nuneaton made the journey to Wellington Town, the league leaders, for a Birmingham League encounter. With a view to strengthening the attack, Hinckley United centre-forward Young, has been signed, and Cope, a promising local youngster, brought in.

The first half was well-fought and Nuneaton with the advantage of the slope, just about held their own, Wellington having just slightly more of the play. The home team attacked right from the kick-off and Taft was called into action. Nuneaton retaliated, and Cope was twice caught in possession. Dowsey was prominent in the early stages when Wellington pressed. He headed away from a home raid and soon afterwards did some good spoiling work. Taft made a brilliant save from Simms at close range, and when Nuneaton eventually broke away, Cope put in a shot that was saved by Hampton.



Wellington took the lead 20 minutes after the start, when McCabe's passing led to Whitehouse having a splendid chance, from which he scored, with Taft completely beaten by the force of the shot. Two good centres from Dixon failed to bear fruit. McPhail put in some good work at this stage and play for a while was in Wellington territory, but Nuneaton's forwards were unable to get in any effective shots.

Wellington increased their lead after 36 minutes when Dowsey was adjudged to have handled the ball just outside the penalty area and McCabe scored with a low drive. Although Taft got to the ball, it went through his hands. McPhail reduced Wellington's lead just before the interval, with a fine shot.

In the second half, Wellington had things practically all their own way, keeping Nuneaton penned in their own half. The visitors managed to make one or two breakaways, but these were easily dealt with by the Wellington backs. Twenty minutes from the re-start, Simms, Wellington's centre-forward, banged the ball into the top of the net, Taft having little chance. Ten minutes later, Wellington added a fourth goal when clever work from McCabe led to Meaney brilliantly hooking the ball into the net. In the closing stages, Brindley initiated one or two Nuneaton raids, and Hampton had to rush out to tackle Nelson. The visitors launched one of the best moves of the match towards the end, but the Wellington defence escaped.

Shrewsbury Town v Nuneaton Town 29-04-1935

Shrewsbury: Butcher; Holmes and Darrall; Bates, College and Wassall; Lloyd, Jackson, Meaney, B. Jones and Wilkie.

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Copley; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Young, Cope and Dixon.

Nuneaton made the journey to Shrewsbury on Monday evening, for a Birmingham League game.

Brown cleared from an early home raid, but Nuneaton soon transferred play, and following a centre from the left, Young passed when he might have shot. Butcher had to punch away from Dixon, and saved a drive by Wannacott. A fine shot by Wilkie hit the post, and the same player then caused Taft to save. Brindley cleared from a home attack before Nuneaton set up a movement from which Nelson tested Butcher. Dixon manoeuvred well, but his centre went begging.

Wilkie got through, but Taft cleared his centre. Further trouble was given by Wilkie, and then Bates sent over. Shrewsbury raided on the right, but B. Jones failed to get his foot to the ball. An exciting scene outside the Nuneaton goal ensued, and just after Taft made a spectacular save from Jackson by tipping over a lightning volley. A blunder by the home defence almost let in Nelson.

Nuneaton kept up the pressure, and had a corner on the right, from which Butcher had to save a header. Taft dealt with two or three shots in succession. Shrewsbury attacked neatly, and from a pass by Jackson, Lloyd looked a likely scorer, but hit the side netting. Shrewsbury were pressing for a while and Taft pulled off another good save.

Nuneaton won a free-kick, but nothing became of it, and they remained on the defensive, but quick and sure in their tackling. The Nuneaton goal had a narrow escape when Jones hit the angle of the woodwork. The visitors escaped a free-kick just on the edge of their penalty area.

Nuneaton showed up well after the restart and caused the home defence trouble. Young got through and sent wide, but seemed to have handled the ball. Nuneaton took the lead about ten minutes into the second half. Dixon centred and the ball was passed towards the right, where McPhail dashed in to meet it, and scored with a grand shot into the top of the net.

Nelson made a speedy run just after, but Young was slow and the chance was gone. Shrewsbury put on pressure for a while, but could not overcome the clever Nuneaton defence. The game was full of excitement, and the home side pressed for the equaliser, with Taft making more saves. Nelson initiated a raid but Young stumbled when looking a certain scorer. Good kicking from Copley spoiled a home effort.

The home backs were miskicking and Butcher did well to save a splendid drive from Nelson, while Young missed a good chance. The home keeper deflected Wannacott's drive for a corner, from which Wannacott put the ball into the net, but was given offside. Young landed the ball on the crossbar as the visitors maintained the upper hand.

Nuneaton owed their victory to a sound defence, as the Salopians had rather more of the play in the first half and subjected the visitors' defence to a lot of pressure.

Oakengates Town v Nuneaton Town 02-05-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Carr, Nelson, Cope and Dixon.

Nuneaton travelled to Oakengates Town for a Birmingham League encounter.

The Birmingham and District League championship was decided on Thursday night when Nuneaton lost 4-2 to Oakengates, meaning that the honours go to Wellington Town.

The league table now shows that with only one more match to play at Worcester tomorrow, Nuneaton are three points behind Wellington, so whether they win or lose at Worcester makes no matter; they cannot catch up with Wellington, even if the Salopians lose at Colwyn.

The home team took the lead in the first five minutes through Guest. Dixon replied for Nuneaton after just over half an hour's play, but with only a few minutes remaining to be played before half-time, Bullock and Jones added further goals for Oakengates, who led 3-1 at half-time.

When play was resumed, Oakengates again took up the attack and J. Pearce further increased their lead. Shortly afterwards, Cope replied for Nuneaton. Later in the game, the home side were awarded a penalty, but Taft saved Chambers' shot. There was no further scoring.



Worcester City v Nuneaton Town 04-05-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Cope, Davis and Dixon.

Nuneaton travelled to St. George's Lane to meet Worcester City in the final Birmingham League game of 1934-35.

Nuneaton were first to attack and kept Worcester penned in for a few minutes, but City soon retaliated and Taft had to save a header by Keetley. Davis passed to Dixon, who centred, but Young failed to reach the ball. Young made a good effort just after, but was stopped by the home backs, and then shot over the bar for Nuneaton, while the City backs were kicking faultily, but improved as the match progressed.

Coglin narrowly misses with a very dangerous shot, and from a free-kick in the Nuneaton half, an exciting tussle developed in the visitors' goalmouth, with Taft punching away. A little later Taft saved a centre from the left, but did not clear properly and McNaught drove the ball just wide. Davis' pace took play to the other end, and eventually Young drove the ball into the net, giving Nuneaton the lead after 35 minutes. Close to half-time City equalised from a prolonged attack, Keetley steering the ball into the net with a header.

Nuneaton were penned in for most of the second half and Worcester almost scored following a series of corners. From one of those corners, a fierce drive by Godfrey, the City left-half, was luckily deflected for a corner by a Town back. A third corner followed immediately from which Taft conceded a fourth by tipping the ball over the bar. Nuneaton eventually broke away and McPhail centred, but Young failed to get his head to the ball in front of goal. Worcester took the lead 14 minutes after the break with a splendid goal following good opening work.

Following a centre from the left, Keetley met the ball and steered it neatly into the corner of the net, with Taft having no chance. Keetley increased Worcester's lead 10 minutes later. Taft came out to him, but failed to prevent him from screwing the ball into the net from a narrow angle. Nuneaton reduced the lead six minutes later, following good work by Young and Wannacott, the latter driving the ball in under the bar.

Worcester deserved their win, as they were better in attack than Nuneaton. They were also fairly strong in defence. Nuneaton looked the better side in the first half-hour, but Worcester settled down in real earnest, and for the rest of the game looked like a winning team. Nuneaton fell away badly after the interval and City had things practically all their own way.

After being within an ace of winning the Keys' Cup – presented to the runners-up of the Birmingham League – Nuneaton Town just failed to win this coveted trophy on Saturday, as Kidderminster Harriers won 5-0 at home to Rhyl Athletic and secured the trophy on goal average.

So ended one of the closest struggles for championship honours of the Birmingham League for many years.

Birmingham & District League Final Table 1934-1935

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wellington Town	36	26	4	6	131	51	56
Kidderminster H	36	25	2	9	100	49	52
Nuneaton Town	36	23	6	7	85	44	52
Shrewsbury Town	36	21	6	9	81	43	48
Wrexham Reserves	36	23	1	12	117	68	47
Worcester City	36	20	7	9	90	60	47
Burton Town	36	19	4	13	102	59	42
Stourbridge	36	17	7	12	100	v72	41
Hereford United	36	14	9	13	88	79	37
Cradley Heath	36	17	2	17	76	98	36
Hednesford Town	36	13	9	14	59	80	35
Colwyn Bay	36	12	6	18	69	96	30
Oswestry Town	36	13	2	21	59	80	28
Bangor City	36	10	7	19	62	100	27
Stafford Rangers	36	8	6	22	58	90	22
Brierley Hill Alliance	36	9	4	23	49	83	22
Rhyl Athletic	36	8	6	22	59	115	22
Oakengates	36	8	5	23	60	112	21
Cannock Town	36	9	1	26	54	120	19

Fire Outbreak At Manor Park

During the presentation of the Nuneaton Hospital Cup at Manor Park, smoke was noticed issuing from under the stand. It was discovered that some old football jerseys in a cupboard underneath the stand had become ignited. The alarm was given and the outbreak quickly subdued. It was a timely discovery, for a little later officials would have left the ground.

George Brindley Re-Signed

It is officially announced that George Brindley has re-signed for Nuneaton Town for next season. He has assisted the club for several seasons and has been one of the most consistent players it has ever had. He had player chiefly at left wing-back. Brindley is a product of local football, and was a noted schoolboy player before joining the Town club.

Alf Nelson Signs for Wellington Town

Alf Nelson, Nuneaton Town FC's captain and inside-right during the past season, has signed for Wellington Town FC for next season. Both Wellington Town and Burton Town were anxious to secure his signature, but Nelson met with Wellington directors, and accepted terms.

Nelson played with Luton before joining Nuneaton, and figured in their first team.

Possibly the nearest Nuneaton Town ever came to invincibility was at the beginning of the 1934-35 season. They were under player-manager George Carr and it was the club's second year in the Birmingham League. The first match of the new season took place on August 25th, when Nuneaton beat the reigning champions Wrexham Reserves, by a goal to nil.

The following Friday, the Coventry and Warwickshire County Graphic carried individual photos of 12 Nuneaton players. These included Carr himself, Ben Wannacott and Joe Robson, who would be the club's leading goalscorer for the season. In all, seven new signings were pictured.



Joseph Robson – the former Grimsby player scored four hat-tricks in five games. Whilst at Grimsby, he was on the verge of an England cap, but his career was ended by injury.

On September 1st, Nuneaton entertained Hednesford Town in the FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round. In a midweek match Nuneaton beat Hinckley 5-0 in a Charity Cup game, with Joe Robson scoring a hat-trick. Hopes were high for the FA Cup.

In the event the team played well and Robson and Scott were the star players. The tall inside left, Scott, had a magnificent game, moving one supporter to say that it was the finest individual performance ever seen at Manor Park.

Although lacking pace, Scott's ball control was immaculate, enabling him to beat stronger, quicker opponents with some ease. Nuneaton took an early lead but Hednesford soon equalised. However, when 'Nuns' took the lead following a goalmouth scramble, the visitors fell apart and it was 4-1 to Nuneaton at the interval. A quiet second half followed in which Robson scored twice to complete his second hat-trick of the week and give Town a 6-1 passage to the next round.

The following Saturday, Nuneaton returned to league action when Oswestry Town came to Manor Park, with a side that included former Welsh International, Fred Keenor, who had captained Cardiff City when they won the FA Cup in 1927 and had played the game of his life at Wembley against Arsenal.

But Oswestry were a poor side that day. In fact, a newspaper reporter stated that if Nuneaton never played a better team than Oswestry they would go through the season undefeated. In the league, at least, it looked for a while as if they might, and Town remained unbeaten at Manor Park all season – for a second consecutive season. A feat no other Nuneaton team has succeeded in.

Nuneaton beat Oswestry 3-0, with Robson scoring all three goals to achieve a hat-trick of hat-tricks in successive games. Keenor, at centre-half had a torrid afternoon as Robson was both too fast and too tricky for the old international. In the end Keenor received warnings for fouls on both of Nuneaton's best forwards. Thereafter, he was barracked by the crowd every time he went near a player with the ball.

Robson was not immune to criticism on this occasion, as he often selfishly tried to score himself when other teammates were better placed. Were it not for this Nuneaton would have scored more.

On September 14th, still unbeaten, Town were back in the FA Cup, away to Dudley Town. Expectations were high and an estimated 400-500 fans made the trip, mostly by rail. As Dudley were in the Birmingham Combination and Nuneaton in the Birmingham League, the travelling fans had reasons to feel confident.

Dudley took the lead in the tenth minute, when Owen in the Nuneaton goal twice tried to clear – and twice failed, leaving Gooch free to put the home side ahead. It seemed to knock the stuffing out of Nuneaton, who were barely able to make an impression on this match. A further goal in the middle of the second half sealed victory for the Black Country side.

The 'Nuns' performance was so untypically lacklustre that the visiting supporters had nothing to cheer all afternoon. The Observer wrote: "One found it difficult to believe that there was a single 'Nuns' supporter on the field, so subdued were they. And no wonder. Nuneaton were innocuous".

It was a shock result – probably as much for Dudley as for Nuneaton. On the train journey home one fan was heard to comment: "It has cost me about three shillings to see the game and I saw about three pennyworth of football".

And so Nuneaton Town said farewell to the FA Cup for another year; and how far away another year seems in the warmth of September. It was, however, a solitary cloud in the blue sky horizon of Nuneaton that autumn. Thereafter the team went from strength to strength. The following Saturday they beat Stourbridge 4-0 at Manor Park and incredibly or perhaps inevitably, Joe Robson scored a fourth hat-trick.

Nuneaton Town won a further seven league games in a row, making it ten in all, before being held to a draw by Cradley Heath. The club had never had such a start to the season, but it wasn't enough to take the title; there being more to a football season than just an autumn.

An abridged version of an article by Robert Forryan



Hednesford Town – Extra Preliminary Round

Nuneaton welcomed Hednesford Town to Manor Park for an Extra Preliminary Round FA Cup Replay.

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

Hednesford: Webster; Groves and Smith; Tranter, Blunt and Thacker; Maund, Thomas, Harris, Heaford and Darby.

Nuneaton's attacks were always well-varied and full of life and it was not surprising when within 15 minutes of the start, Robson supplied the centre from which Nelson scored to give the home side the lead. This early lead, encouraging Nuneaton, did not dishearten their opponents and five minutes later Hednesford had drawn level when Tranter found the net with a long range effort.

The football displayed by both teams was always fast and exciting. The ball travelled swiftly from end to end and the spectators were provided with endless thrills. Nuneaton's superior forward tactics won the day in a breathless struggle for supremacy and 15 minutes before the interval they took the lead for a second time. Scott, Robson and Dixon combined in a good movement which ended in Dixon scoring from close range.

This was followed by the most sensational part of the game, when with just a minute to go before the break, Scott headed into the net from McPhail's centre. Straight after, Nuneaton swept downfield again, in irresistible style. Dixon secured the ball on the left and sent across a perfect centre. McPhail could have scored, but chose to pass to Robson, whose drive struck the Hednesford crossbar.

The ball rebounded to Robson's feet and this time he found the mark with a terrific short-range drive. No sooner had the cheers of the crowd subsided than the whistle went for half-time, thus ending a thrilling and exciting 45 minutes of football between two well-

matched teams. It was hard lines on Hednesford to be so far behind, but the luck was all against them.

In a hard second-half game Nuneaton twice improved upon their lead and both of the goals came from Robson, who scored in the 25th minute of the second half and again in the last minute of the game.

Hednesford had a number of chances, but would not shoot, preferring, as in the first half, to walk the ball right up to the goal, and this, of course, they could not do.

Robson gave endless trouble to a defence which was always on tenterhooks as to what the centre-forward would do next. In combination with Scott and Nelson, the centre-forward could not be held.

In defence, Nuneaton were again well-served by Dowsey, Brown and Brookes, who played a big part in stopping the Hednesford raids and Owen in the home goal did everything that was required of him.

Hednesford lost because they could not hold Robson and because their forwards failed in their shooting. Robson has now scored seven goals in three matches, including two hat-tricks.

Dudley Town – Preliminary Round

Nuneaton travelled to Dudley Town for a Preliminary Round FA Cup game.

Dudley: Edgington; Langford and Neale; Low, Noyce and Gouch; Harrison, Cartwright, Berry, Edwards and Gooch.

Nuneaton: Owen; Brown and Brookes; Wannacott, Dowsey and Brindley; McPhail, Nelson, Robson, Scott and Dixon.

In the crowd of 5,000, there were almost 600 people who had travelled with the team from Nuneaton.

Nuneaton pressed from the beginning, but Robson lost the ball near the goalmouth. A little later Scott sent in a long, low shot which Edgington easily cleared. Dudley retaliated and Berry was checked. Gooch, however, came into the picture, and during a melee

round the goalmouth was able to find the net for Dudley, which gave them the lead, within ten minutes of the start.

Nuneaton retaliated with determination and for a time play was of a ding-dong nature. Owen saved a long shot from the home centre-half and, at the other end, Edgington stopped a high shot from McPhail.

From this point Nuneaton improved considerably and were certainly the better side and McPhail became dangerous on several occasions. Dixon failed to pick up a pass from Scott and a corner resulted, but was cleared.

Dixon sent in some good centres, but without effect. Just before the interval Nuneaton pressed hard and Edgington made a fine save.

Dudley were quick to attack after the break and Berry missed from a centre on the right wing. This started a Nuneaton effort and McPhail had a shot stopped while Brookes performed a neat tackle when the home side raided again.

Edgington gave a corner from a shot by Scott and another corner came immediately afterwards from a splendid long volley by Dowsey.

Robson was trying hard, but was being well watched. Edwards should have scored for Dudley but he just failed to get his head to the ball in front of the net, 10 minutes after the break.

Scott later passed to the right and from McPhail's centre a home back conceded a corner which proved fruitless.

Dixon forced a corner from which Nelson shot over the bar. From a free-kick Robson tested Edgington with a strong shot. Dudley broke away and when Harrison centred a tussle ensued in front of the Nuneaton goal and the ball hit the woodwork.

From the rebound, Edwards netted, 24 minutes after the interval. Nuneaton replied and for a time looked like scoring. Both Nelson and McPhail shot over the bar.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



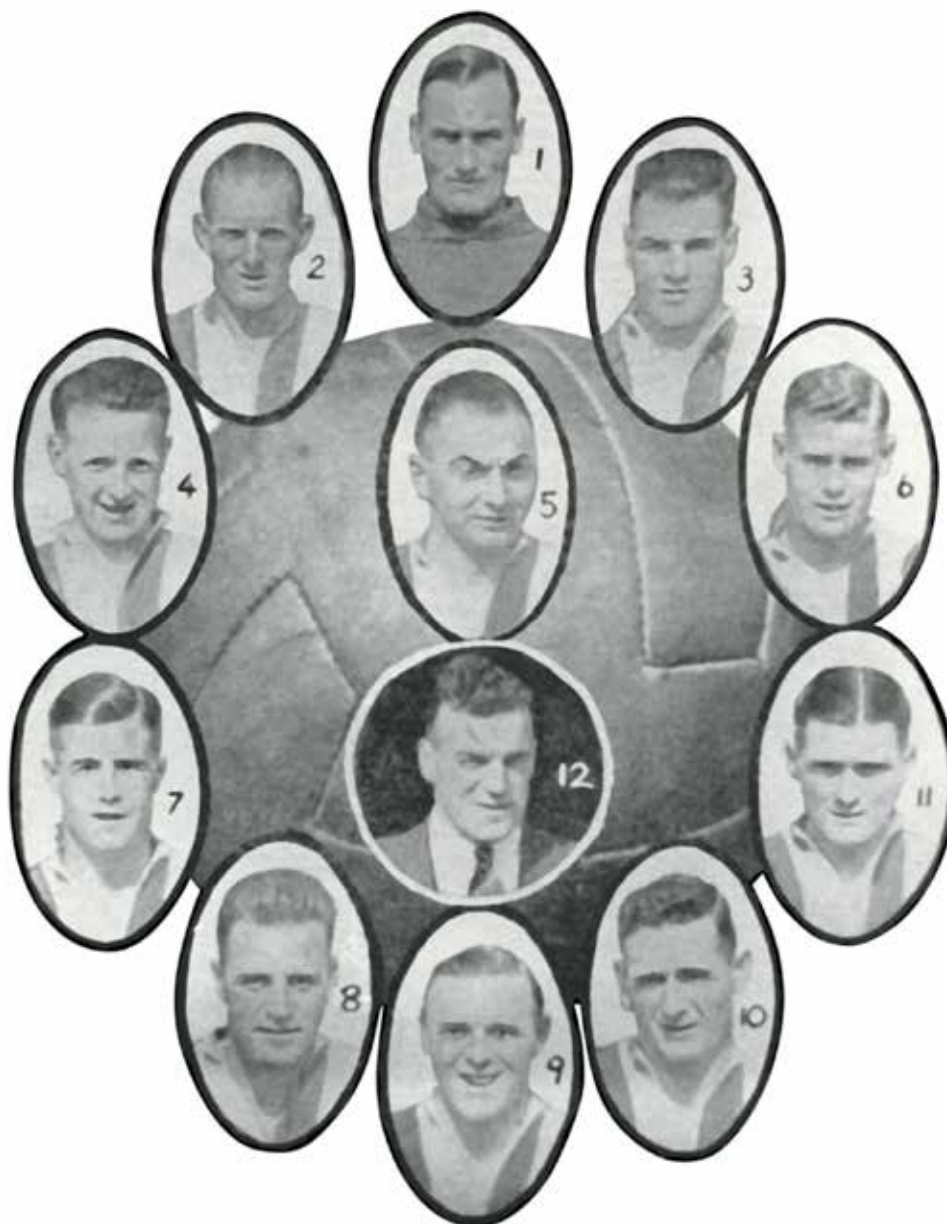
Birmingham District League: Fixtures, Results & Scorers- 1934-35

Nuneaton Score First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers
08.25	Wrexham	Home	League	1-0	Robson
08.27	Hinckley United	Home	NCC Final	4-0	Robson (3), Nelson
09.01	Hednesford	Home	FAC EP	6-1	Robson (3), Nelson, Scott, Dixon
09.08	Oswestry Town	Home	League	3-0	Robson (3)
09.15	Dudley Town	Away	FAC Prelim.	0-2	
09.22	Stourbridge	Home	League	4-0	Robson (3), Scott
09.24	Hinckley United	Home	BSC 1	2-1	Robson, McPhail
09.29	Aston Villa A	Home	Friendly	1-1	Dixon
10.06	Colwyn Bay	Away	League	5-3	Robson (2), Nelson (2), Scott
10.13	Bangor City	Away	League	2-1	Robson (2)
10.20	Hednesford	Home	League	4-0	Robson (4)
10.27	Birmingham City A	Home	CNC S-F	1-1	McPhail
11.03	Burton Town	Home	BSC 2	3-0	Robson, Nelson, Wannacott
11.10	Hereford United	Home	League	6-0	Nelson (3), Robson (2), Dixon
11.17	Brierley Hill Alliance	Away	League	2-0	Robson, Own Goal
11.24	Rhyl Athletic	Home	League	5-1	Robson (3), Nelson, Scott
12.01	Dudley Town	Away	BSC 3	2-0	Robson, Scott
12.08	Kidderminster Harriers	Home	League	3-1	Robson (2), Dixon
12.15	Hednesford	Away	League	1-0	Robson
12.22	Worcester City	Home	League	2-2	Robson, Nelson
12.25	Hinckley United	Home	NHC Final	4-1	Nelson (2), Dixon, Robson
12.26	Hinckley United	Away	HHC	0-1	
12.29	Stafford Rangers	Away	League	2-2	Scott, McPhail
01.05	Cradley Heath	Away	League	0-1	
01.12	Cannock Town	Home	League	6-0	Nelson (5), Scott
01.19	Birmingham Trams	Home	BSC S-F	6-0	Dixon (5), McPhail
01.24	Oswestry Town	Away	League	3-2	Robson (2), Nelson
01.26	Oakengates	Home	League	2-0	Robson, Dixon
02.02	Stourbridge	Away	League	0-3	
02.09	Leamington Town	Home	LHC S-F	1-2	Nelson
02.16	Colwyn Bay	Home	League	3-2	Nelson (2), Robson
02.23	Bangor City	Home	League	1-0	Nelson
03.02	Cradley Heath	Home	League	5-1	Nelson, McPhail, Scott, Dixon, Wannacott
03.09	Wellington Town	Home	League	2-2	Wannacott, McPhail
03.16	Birmingham City A	Home	CNC S-F Replay	3-1	Nelson (2), McPhail
03.20	Wrexham	Away	League	3-2	Nelson (2), Tromans
03.23	Hereford United	Away	League	3-3	Davis (2), Nelson
03.30	Kidderminster	At Dudley	BSC Final	2-5	Lawrence, Dixon
04.01	George Brindley XI	Home	Testimonial	1-2	Dixon
04.06	Rhyl Athletic	Away	League	2-0	Wannacott (2 1pen)
04.08	Brierley Hill Alliance	Home	League	3-0	Nelson, Lawrence, Dixon
04.13	Shrewbury	Home	League	0-0	
04.15	Cannock Town	Away	League	2-0	Dixon, Irons
04.19	Burton Town	Away	League	0-2	
04.20	Kidderminster Harriers	Away	League	1-3	Wannacott
04.22	Burton Town	Home	League	0-0	
04.23	Stafford Rangers	Home	League	3-2	Dixon (2), Nelson
04.27	Wellington Town	Away	League	1-4	McPhail
04.29	Shrewsbury	Away	League	1-0	McPhail
05.02	Oakengates	Away	League	2-4	Dixon, Cope
05.04	Worcester City	Away	League	2-3	Young, Wannacott

Legend: NCC – Nuneaton Charity Cup; FAC – FA Cup; BSC – Birmingham Senior Cup; CNC – Coventry Nursing Cup; NHC – Nuneaton Hospital Cup; HHC – Hinckley Hospital Cup; LHC – Leamington Hospital Cup

Nuneaton Town F.C. 1934-35



1. William Owen, 2. Jack Brown, 3. Anker Brookes, 4. Ben Wonnacott,
5. Dowsey, 6. George Brindley, 7. Don McPhail, 8. Alf Nelson
9. John Robson, 10. Harry Scott, 11. Bob Dixon, 12. George Carr (player-manager)



Nuneaton's New Signings

Nuneaton Town FC have signed Edgar Hewitt, a Junior International, whose age is 24, stands 5ft. 11in. high and weighs 11st. 2lb. For the past four seasons, he has been with Torquay United, for whom he made over 100 League appearances at back and half-back. He is considered to be one of the fastest half-backs in the Third Division.

Nuneaton have also secured the signature of George Woodward, centre-forward, who is aged 22 and stands 6ft high and weighs 12st. 6lbs. Woodward made 17 appearances for Coventry City in the London Combination, and performed the hat-trick against Reading and Chelsea. Several other clubs were after his signature.

Nuneaton Town AFC AGM

Big Fall In Gate Receipts

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Nuneaton Association Football Club, Ltd., was held at the Cock and Bear Inn on Wednesday evening when Mr W. Deans, Chairman of the Directors, presided over a small attendance.

The annual report and balance sheet, revealed a small loss on the season of £3 13s. 7d., which the directors considered satisfactory taking into consideration that the income from the gate receipts this season showed a decrease of over £200 on the previous 12 months working.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said on looking back on the past season he had come to the conclusion that it had been a most exasperating season. They did wonderfully well at the commencement and did not meet defeat until the New Year. He was not sorry they lost that match as every team they met was so eager to beat them that each match they played was a typical cup-tie. The English Cup match was their first reverse and when Dudley beat them it was a great disappointment not only from a playing point of view, but also from a financial standpoint. The directors were expecting some revenue from the cup ties.

After this they began to concentrate on the League and their hopes of winning the championship were sustained until Easter. Their team, for some reason, began to lose confidence and there was a collapse of form. Some people may have put this collapse down to the fact that they had so many fixtures away from home. It was a big disappointment not to win the championship, but what was a greater disappointment to him was that they also lost the Keys Cup for the runners-up. They were defeated by Kidderminster Harriers on goal average.

Their directors had received a wonderful letter from the Kidderminster Harriers Club sympathising with them and this letter showed what splendid sportsmanship existed between the clubs of the Birmingham League. His directors instructed the secretary to reply to Kidderminster's letter and the reply was read out at the annual meeting of that club.

As he had already stated there was a collapse of form at the end of the season and they found they had not reserves strong enough to fill their positions in Birmingham League football. Robson was injured in February and the directors fully thought he would be well enough to help them in the later matches. On the Good Friday they thought he would be able to play against Burton Town, but it was found that he was not fit to play and they had to do without his services for the remainder of the season.

A Question Of £ s. d.

They were asked why they did not get extra players and so strengthen their team. That was all a question of £ s. d. With a shilling gate it had been a struggle throughout the season to keep things going and they were doing their best to save a loss. They could have got extra players, but they had not sufficient money. They did not feel justified in increasing the debit balances at the bank to get those players. It was pointed out to them that Wellington got five new players in the last four matches. How were they able to do this when Wellington was only a town half the size of Nuneaton? It was a short story. In their holiday match against Shrewsbury, Welling had a £625 gate. In Nuneaton's corresponding match against Burton, their nearest rivals, their gate was only just over £100. This showed how supporters at Wellington back their club up. Nuneaton, he would remind them, had not lost a League match at home for two seasons and they had never let their supporters down.

Mr Deans pointed out that they had subscribed £123 to hospitals and charities during the past season. He would leave the prospects of the coming season to Mr Wheway, but he could say they were very optimistic of fielding a better team. They had already signed some good players and had retained some of their old players.

Constitution Of The League

There had been a great confusion as to how the Birmingham League would be constituted this year. They first of all heard that the North Wales clubs, Bangor, Rhyl and Colwyn Bay were resigning and then they read that Shrewsbury, Wellington and Oswestry were thinking of going. Burton Town also resigned. At one time they were only sure of twelve teams being in the Birmingham League and this gave the directors cause for grave consideration. They informed the Birmingham League that if they only had from 12 to 14 clubs Nuneaton would not join this season. It meant a difference of 26 to 38 fixtures and they could not run a club successfully without a full fixture list. He was pleased to say that things righted themselves and all the clubs rejoined with the exception of Burton Town, who joined the Midland League. He might mention that at one period the directors sent a questionnaire round to the members of the Midland League and they received satisfactory answers in most cases. If they had persevered he was sure they would have been elected to



this league. But in this league their travelling expenses would have been £150 more and the directors did not feel justified in making an application. The Birmingham League had been made up to 20 clubs and they welcomed Cardiff City Reserves as new members. They had arranged to play Cardiff at Cardiff on Christmas Day and the Welsh side were coming to Nuneaton on Boxing Day. It would be an attractive holiday match (hear, hear).

Price Of Admission

Their gates in the Birmingham League did not average 2,000 per match last season and in fact they lost on the League fixtures. Turning to the question of the price of admission he pointed out that if they returned to the 6d. gate they would require an attendance of 3,700 at each match simply to pay running expenses and at 9d. they would require a 3,000 gate. It seemed absolutely necessary to continued the shilling gate as 2,000 per match brought in £83 6s. 8d. If they looked at the balance sheet they would see that they owed £301 15s. 3d. to sundry creditors and they had an overdraft at the bank of £162 2s. 6d., which made their total liabilities at £463 17s. 9d. They wanted a surplus of £25 each match to wipe out this debt and he estimated that to carry on next season and to finish out of debt they would require £110 every home match.

In conclusion the Chairman expressed their thanks to the Supporters' Club, whose donation of £96 had made all the difference between profit and loss, the St. John Ambulance Brigade who had always been in attendance at their matches, to the local Press for their fair and accurate reports, and the directors themselves who had supported him and had worked very well together.

More Support Needed

Mr G. H. Wheway, who seconded the adoption of the report, paid tribute to the splendid sportsmanship which existed between the clubs of the Birmingham League.

Nuneaton, he thought, did not get the support they merited last season. With more support they would have had more money to buy players. There was no hope of League football in Nuneaton without they got more support, and it was the same on the question of joining the Midland League.

They had signed on some good players for the coming season. They could have more players of English League experience if they could find them work. He would appeal to local employers to help them in this respect. A man could keep in football too long, he could continue playing until he was too old to get a job when his football career finished. That was why they had players offering to come to them if they could only be found permanent work.

Mr Wheway gave a list of players they had signed for the coming season, which included Woodward of Coventry City, Taylor, who played for Yeovil and Petters last season in their memorable cup matches and Bott who played for Weymouth last year. They were negotiating for other players.

"I hope there will be no squealing about the shilling gate this season," he said. "Supporters should look on the extra 3d. they pay as the means of getting League football in Nuneaton which is the ambition of all of us."

The report was adopted and Alderman F. P. Pembleton, Messrs. W. Deans and G. H. Taylor, were re-elected directors. Messrs. Clay, Russell and Cox were re-elected auditors.

Season 1935-1936

List Of New Players

Nuneaton Town Football Club's prospects for the coming season seem particularly bright, from a playing point of view. The Club has about completed the team and some new players with excellent reputations have signed on. The directors have felt that men with English League experience and wages were needed to keep up the standard required in the Birmingham League. For this reason it has been found necessary to continue the 1s. gate for first team league matches.

This week the club signed on W. Blessed, a right or left-winger from Accrington Stanley, and formerly of Grimsby. Another strong defence is assured with the re-signing of Jack Dowsey, G. Brindley (halves), and Jack Brown (right-back, formerly of Leicester City), E. D. Hewitt, of Torquay United, and A. Duffield, from the Nottingham district, are other backs signed, and Stan Woodhall, of Watford, will be included in the halves.

Nuneaton will have a completely new attack this season. Nelson has gone to Wellington, McPhail to Burton, Wannacott to France, and Robson and Dixon have left the club. Joe Taylor, of Yeovil and Petters United, who scored 74 goals last season, will be the leader of the attack. Other forwards will be Harry Bott, of Weymouth, G. Woodward of Coventry City, and W. Blessed, of Accrington. Taft will again be in goal, and Wilfrid Sanders, the Warwickshire cricketer, will also keep goal.

Town will meet Redditch in the FA Cup, and will engage Cannock in the first League fixture, but the venue has to be settled. There will be a match with Cardiff City on Boxing Day and Wrexham on Easter Monday, both at Manor Park. The public trial games will be played on August 22 and 24, and a trial game for local juniors on August 17.

Alderman F. P. Pembleton will be Chairman of the Directors this season, and Mr F. J. Perry will carry on as secretary.

First Trial Match

Nuneaton Town's first official trial game took place last night at Manor Park, when the "Blues", the prospective Birmingham League side, were opposed by the "Reds", a team composed mostly of the reserves, with the exception of Woodward, late of Coventry, at centre-forward, and Hewitt,



formerly of Torquay at centre-half. The game resulted in a win for the “Blues” by 3-0, but actually their superiority was more marked than the score suggests.

Chief interest was centred round the “Blues” centre-forward Taylor, who hails from Yeovil and Petters, with a splendid goal record. He is certainly the biggest forward that has appeared in the Nuneaton side for years, and although he seemed to take things rather easy, there was always the expectant thrill when he had the ball. He netted once, but could have scored at least two more goals if he had desired. One shot of his was a real gem. He turned the ball from what seemed an impossible angle, and Wood, the “Reds” goalkeeper, was to be congratulated on stopping a shot which would have caught most keepers napping.

Bott was another new man who was well to the fore in all the movements and showed himself to be a forward who was always ready to put in a surprise shot. Blessed, formerly of Grimsby, on the right wing, and young Ashall, inside right, combined well in the first half, but the former was rested in the second owing to a damaged toe, and his place was taken by Tebbitt, a player from Earl Shilton, who had not been in the side many minutes before he scored. Woodhall, late of the Woves, combined well with Dowsey and Brindley, last season’s players, in the half-back line. Hugson, of the “Reds,” was changed with Duffield, of the “Blues” at left-back at half-time, and Sanders, former Warwickshire cricket player, was changed for Taft in the “Blues” goal. It was Wood, the reserve keeper who earned the most applause, he of course, had more work to do, but some of the shots he saved were real teasers.

Team Building Completed

Nuneaton Town FC on Saturday signed an inside-right forward named Ashall, who has played for Mansfield. He will be 20 years of age in October and comes with very strong recommendations, a number of clubs having sought his service.

By the signature of Ashall, the Nuneaton Town directors have completed their team for the coming season in the Birmingham League.

Second Trial Match

Nuneaton Town FC’s second official trial game, at Manor Park, on Saturday, attracted about a 1,000 spectators. Despite the heat the game was a very interesting one. As was the case on the previous Thursday, when the first official trial was held, the game resulted in a decisive victory for the “Blue and Whites” over the “Red and Whites”. The “Blues” showed marked superiority in all departments and won by five clear goals. The scorers were Taylor (2), Bott, Poole and Shall. The teams were:

Blue and Whites: Taft; Brown and Hudson; Woodhall, Hewitt and Brindley; Tebbitt, Ashall, Taylor, Bott and Poole.

Red and Whites: Wood; Ford and Duffield; Ridgeway, Wootton

and Whitehouse; Wileman, Tromans, Woodward, Knight and Culver.

The “Blues” had a lively attack. Taylor (Yeovil and Petters United) was a dominating centre-forward and a powerful shot. He had good support from Tebbitt, Ashall, Bott and Pool, the rest of the “Blues” forwards. Wood, the Red and Whites’ goalkeeper, was thoroughly tested throughout. The “Blues” were also sound in defence, and Hewitt at centre-half, gave a very fine display, being neat in his clearing and clever in the placing of the ball. Brown was also outstanding. Both goalkeepers behaved admirably. Wood had the busier time of the two, and his display roused general admiration. Woodward was a good leader for Red and Whites, but was given little support, although Culver and Wileman were speedy wingers.

Nuneaton Town v Cannock Town

31-08-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Brindley; Woodhall, Dowsey and Hewitt; Blessed, Ashall, Taylor, Bott and Poole.

Cannock: White; Sambrooks and Parkes; Thacker, Burdett and Yapp; Williams, Brace, Sunley, Barker and Evans.

Nuneaton welcomed Cannock Town to Manor Park for the opening match of the 1935-36 Birmingham League season.

Nuneaton opened the match with a quick move down the right, but Taylor was given offside. An attack by Cannock led to a corner, which caused Taft to save, and Nuneaton broke away and took the lead after 10 minutes. Ashall sent Taylor through and he had little difficulty in putting the home side 1-0 up. Blessed created a chance for Poole, who shot over, and just after, Bott tested White with a stinging shot.

Nuneaton increased their lead after 15 minutes, when Dowsey put the ball through to Taylor, who beat the defence on his own and scored with a long raking shot. The shot was not really a difficult one and should have been saved by White. A minute later Ashall nearly added a third goal, but slipped at the crucial moment. Cannock made several attempts to get through, but great defensive work by Brown and Brindley kept the visitors at bay.

Nuneaton were kept on the defensive in the early stages of the second half, but Cannock were unable to profit from this temporary advantage, owing to poor finishing. The home side hit back and added a third goal, 25 minutes after the break with Ashall turning the ball cleverly into the net. Timely work by Taft and Brindley saved Nuneaton from a Cannock raid. In the closing stages, the Cannock keeper was tested with shots from Taylor, Poole and Ashall.

Nuneaton Town v Atherstone Town

02-09-1935

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Brindley; Woodhall, Dowsey and Hewitt; Poole, Ashall, Taylor, Woodward and Bott.

Nuneaton welcomed Atherstone Town to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Charity Cup on Monday evening.

Atherstone fielded a strong side and were worthy of a draw,

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



but Nuneaton had bad luck in losing Brown, after about five minutes when he jumped high to get to the ball and fell heavily over an opposing player, fracturing his collarbone. Nuneaton were forced to re-organise their side and played four men up front in the first half, which did not profit them and they went in at half-time 1-0 down.

Nuneaton improved after the interval when they played with five forwards. Throughout, the “Adders” gave a vigorous and spirited display. One of the brightest features of the match was the brilliant display of Wood in the Nuneaton goal. His speed and judgment roused general admiration. Atherstone had Day injured at the start of the game, but he was able to resume soon after.

The visitors set up a warm raid, but failed to finish properly, before a grand centre by Ashall all but led to a goal for Nuneaton. The “Adders” took the lead 20 minutes from the start. Following a corner there was a tussle in front of goal, and Morrall put the ball into the net. Atherstone had most of the play after this, and Nuneaton’s defence was hard-pressed.

About two minutes after the interval Taylor was going through when he was brought down in the penalty area by Sharpe. Taylor himself took the spot kick and banged the ball into the top of the net, giving Nuneaton an equaliser. About a minute later Taylor made an opening for Woodward, who scored with a shot that went into the net off the post. Wood made a thrilling save following a corner. A melee followed this second corner, from which Haynes netted the equaliser, with the second half about 30 minutes old. Both sides tried hard for a decider, but failed in front of goal.

Wrexham Reserves v Nuneaton Town 09-09-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Russell and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Blessed, Ashall, Taylor, Bott and Woodward.

Nuneaton travelled to Wrexham on Wednesday for a Birmingham League match.

Last season Nuneaton went half-way through the campaign before they sustained a league defeat. This season they have gone only four matches. Having regard to the fact that the side was weakened by injuries, the visitors’ defeat was not altogether unexpected, and it should not be taken too much to heart. In fact, the defeat might be in the interests of the side. Last season, because they went so long without defeat, all the teams they met seemed intent on lowering their colours, and more strenuous became their task each game.

Wrexham got both their goals in the first ten minutes of the game, before the visitors had settled down. Nuneaton scored before the interval, and had a splendid chance to win, as ten minutes before the interval, Wrexham lost their centre-forward, and he took no further part in the game. This severely handicapped the home side, and they were almost continually on the defensive, but the Nuneaton forwards failed to press home their advantage, missing numerous chances.

The Town defence was strong throughout. Russell and Hudson, who deputised for Hewitt, tackled fearlessly, and gave very little away. The halves, too, were strong. The weakness was at inside forward and outside left, where Woodward operated with little success. Wrexham did well to win, being a man short for a big share of the game. Dodd and Roberts scored for the home side and Ashall for Nuneaton

Nuneaton Town v Worcester City 14-09-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Russell and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Blessed, Ashall, Taylor, Hewitt and Bott.

Worcester: Wright; Jenkins and Ives; Kerr, Beecham and Godfrey; Colthard, McCabe, Keetley, Edmunds and Wilkie.

Nuneaton welcomed Worcester City to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture.

It was a battle royal right from the start. Both goals had narrow escapes during the game and there was very little to choose between them. The City forwards displayed clever combination at the start and soon had the Nuneaton defence in trouble. Nuneaton then became dangerous and Wright was forced to turn a high dropping shot from Blessed over the bar.

Play was very fast and of high quality, and although Worcester played the prettier football, Nuneaton’s fast moves were difficult to check. Keetley, the City centre-forward, was well marked and unable to get in any effective shots. Nuneaton’s goal had a lucky escape when Taft failed to gather a centre from McCabe when out of goal. Wilkie shot in but Russell, on the goal line, kept the ball out by a marvellous contortionist act. He strained himself in doing so, but soon resumed. Although both sides tried the utmost to score, half-time came with the score sheet blank.

With the advantage of the breeze, Nuneaton had a large share of the play in the second half and employed shock tactics, always looking dangerous and Worcester being forced to long spells on the defensive. The quality of the play, however, was not so high as that of the first half. The second half was about 25 minutes old when Town scored the goal which proved to be the deciding factor. Taylor, who had been troubling the visitors for some time, received from Bott and crashed the ball into the net. Although Worcester tried hard to equalise in the closing stages, they found the Nuneaton defence too good for them.

The score was a fair relection of the play and Nuneaton just about deserved to win.

Cannock Town v Nuneaton Town 16-09-1935

Cannock: Allport; Sambrooks and Gray; Thacker, Burdett and Yapp; Williams, Brace, Parkes, Barker and Brownbridge.

Nuneaton: Taft; Russell and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Tebbett, Ashall, Taylor, Hewitt and Bott.

Nuneaton made the journey to Cannock Town on Monday for a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton took the lead after 23 minutes. Taking a pass from Woodhall, Tebbett beat Gray in style, and raced in towards



goal, beating Allport with an unerring shot. Yapp took a free-kick well in Nuneaton territory, from which Parkes turned the ball into the net for Cannock's equaliser after 27 minutes.

Hewitt shot over when well placed, while Taylor forced his way through the defence, but sent wide. Williams made a great dash and caused Taft to concede a corner, from which nothing resulted. Williams performed well and won another corner, followed by yet another. Taylor hooked the ball into the net, but was given offside, while at the other end, Williams hit the bar from distance. Tebbett beat his man and tested Allport, while Taft kicked away following a Cannock raid and an exciting tussle outside the Nuneaton goal followed.

Cannock resumed without Williams, who was hurt just before the interval, but broke through a minute after the re-start when Brace beat Taft with a splendid shot inside the post. Williams returned and Russell drove the ball just over the bar with a free-kick. The home side scored again 20 minutes into the second half. Taft came out to deal with a long shot, and would have got the ball easily, but Hudson took it off him, without managing to clear the ball and Williams nipped in to score. It was a costly blunder by Hudson, who was injured at the same time.

Russell went centre-forward for Nuneaton and Hewitt right back. Hudson was limping and went outside-left, which seemed to put Nuneaton at sixes and sevens. Dowsey, however, tested Allport from long range. Russell headed a goal from a corner kick taken by Tebbett, less than ten minutes from the end. Nuneaton tried for an equaliser in the remaining minutes, but in the last five minutes Cannock made a great rush and Williams scored a nice goal.

Nuneaton Town v Brierley Hill Alliance 28-09-1935

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Laycock, Taylor, Bott and Blessed.

Brierley Hill: Corbett; Smart and Follies; Blunt, Homer and Whitehouse; Wardell, Dainty, Handley, Gillespie and Scriven.

Nuneaton welcomed unbeaten Brierley Hill to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game.

The Alliance were kept penned in their own territory for the first few minutes, and when eventually they did make an invasion, Brown and Dowsey showed good understanding in thwarting them. Nuneaton took the lead 18 minutes from the start. A centre by Woodhall caused trouble, Blessed returned the ball to the centre, and the Alliance defence was in a quandary. Bott made use of a grand opportunity to score with a smashing volley. Immediately after the goal the visitors had a very narrow escape when Laycock and Taylor both hit the bar in quick succession.

Nuneaton continued to have much the better of matters, although Brierley Hill made one or two dangerous attacks, and Wood showed skill in picking up the ball. The Alliance keeper saved well from a lightning drive by Bott, who continued to shine in the shooting department.

Alliance made a desperate attempt to level matters after the break, but it was only a 'flash in the pan' and they were soon on the defensive again, and apart from one or two breakaways, remained so for the rest of the game. Much indignation was aroused among spectators when the referee disallowed what appeared to be a perfectly good goal. Taylor, at the near post, appeared to put the ball into the net with a header, a defender kicking away. Those behind the goal were of the opinion that the ball touched the net before being kicked away.

The second half was 35 minutes old when Ashall increased Nuneaton's lead. Woodhall started the movement, and Bott centred. Two home forwards missed the ball in front of goal, but Ashall dashed in and scored with a nice shot. In the last minute, from a corner, Ashall scored Nuneaton's third goal, heading the ball into the net.

Nuneaton Town v Coventry City

30-09-1935

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Laycock, Taylor, Bott and Blessed.

Nuneaton welcomed Coventry City Reserves to Manor Park on Monday evening for the final of the Coventry Nursing Cup.

Town's forward line was a vigorous attacking machine, and Taylor had to be closely watched, whilst Ashall was again outstanding on the wing. The half-backs and the defenders generally, worked with speed and method in breaking up Coventry raids. The City attack could not be called at all formidable on the evening's play, and most of its shooting was from distance. Wood was not even seriously troubled in goal, but played well when needed.

Nuneaton missed some chances in the opening exchanges, but took the lead 10 minutes from the start. Ashall centres, and the goalkeeper seemed dazzled by the sun. The ball hit his chest, and rebounded to Taylor, who put the ball into the net. Nuneaton showed up well, and Morgan had to punch away a centre by Ashall. Nuneaton increased their lead after 15 minutes. Taylor centred for Ashall to score.

There was no further scoring and the remainder of the game was fairly evenly contested, although Nuneaton were always the superior side. The home side continually got the ball in the first half, but Coventry were handicapped by the wind and glaring sun.

In the second half Town showed good form and positioned well. Taylor put in some neat touches, but was not quick enough to profit. City became more dangerous towards the close, but the home defence was watchful. A save by Morgan off a shot from Taylor marked the closing stage of the game.

The margin of 2-0 did not flatter Town, who gave an excellent display. The team combined well and were generally quicker on the ball than City players. On the form of the last two matches, Town should make progress in coming weeks.

Alderman F. P. Pembleton, J.P., presented the cup to Dowsey, the Nuneaton captain, and miniature trophies to the players.



Oswestry Town v Nuneaton Town 05-10-1935

Oswestry: Davies; Roberts and T. Jones; Perry, Mound and Onslow; Collins, Fornstone, Armstrong, Antonio and Jones.

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Laycock, Taylor, Bott and Hudson.

Nuneaton made the journey to Oswestry Town for a Birmingham League match.

Nuneaton's defence was hard-pressed in the early stages with Wood saving from Armstrong. Nuneaton hit back and shots were put in by Taylor and Bott. A home raid saw Wood fumble the ball, but he managed to recover and the danger was averted. Some lusty kicking by Russell proved of assistance to the visitors, but the Nuneaton attack was not very impressive, Taylor failing once or twice to make headway.

Collins, the home team's outside-right was an almost continual source of danger, and eventually hooked the ball over the bar. Nuneaton became a little more aggressive and the home keeper had to save twice, and a little later he tipped over from an excellent shot by Laycock. The Nuneaton defence had a warm few minutes, after which Woodhall started a move from which he himself put in a fast volley. Davies, the home keeper, tipping the ball on to the bar, for it to go for a corner. There was a tremendous tussle following the flag-kick. Just before half-time, the Nuneaton goal underwent a thrilling bombardment, during which Wood made three saves in quick succession.

Immediately after the resumption, Taylor missed two good scoring chances in quick succession. The game continued in "ding dong" fashion and the second half was 20 minutes old when Jones, the Oswestry left winger, got through nicely, and put in a splendid centre, which Armstrong turned into the net to give Oswestry the lead. Nuneaton had a great deal of play for the remainder of the game, but appeared to be able to do everything but score. Just before the final whistle, Oswestry attacked hotly and there were exciting scenes outside the Nuneaton goal, Jones having a fierce volley blocked.

The Border Town's victory was well-deserved for they were much the better side, and had it not been for a brilliant display by Wood, the Nuneaton goalkeeper, the visitors would most assuredly have been even more decisively beaten. The conditions were not favourable for good football, the ground being sodden and the ball greasy.

New Outside-Left For Nuneaton

Nuneaton have signed on a new outside-left in Cooper, who last year played for Leamington. The directors have had difficulty in choosing a team to meet Rhyl at Manor Park on Saturday. Tromans, a reserve player, will appear at inside-right in place of Laycock, who will undergo an operation at Nuneaton Hospital for a broken jaw sustained in the Oswestry match last Saturday.

Nuneaton Town v Rhyl Athletic 12-10-1935

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Tromans, Taylor, Bott and Cooper.

Rhyl: Wilkes; Stimpson and T. Roberts; Barker, Davison and Walker; F. Roberts, Jones, Stewart, Stanyon and Lawrenson.

Nuneaton welcomed Rhyl Athletic to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match. The team included new signing Cooper, who has previously played at Leamington Town.

The early exchanges were even, but Town had some difficulty in holding Rhyl's centre-forward. Ashall put in some good work for the home team following a pass from Taylor. Nuneaton took the lead 22 minutes from the start, after Tromans was brought down in the penalty area, and Taylor scored from the spot, putting in a smashing drive. It was a stroke of bad luck for Rhyl, who had been having quite a good share of the play.

The Rhyl goalkeeper was kept busy for a spell after this and Taylor was once or twice given offside. Some neat work by Ashall marked the next few minutes of the game, and Tromans and Bott both went close. The former missed an opportunity of putting the home side further ahead, when the goalkeeper was temporarily out of position. Dowsey and Woodhall did some useful tackling and Cooper tested Wilkes.

The first-half was well-contested, and Nuneaton were rather lucky to be leading by one goal to none at the interval, for the visitors held their own with comparative ease. Neither side was, however, impressive in attack and several excellent opportunities were wasted.

On the resumption Rhyl had a brief spell of attacking, but were soon on the defensive and remained so for the rest of the game, apart from one or two breakaways. The Rhyl keeper made good saves from Cooper and Ashall, and immediately afterwards Taylor increased Nuneaton's lead with a first-time shot, landing the ball just inside the post.

Nuneaton scored again about half-an-hour after the break. This goal came from a free-kick well outside the Rhyl penalty area for handling by a visiting defender. Russell took the kick and scored with a fine drive at a range of 25 to 30 yards, the goalkeeper being completely beaten. The Rhyl custodian had to make several saves in quick succession in the closing stages, including a good shot by Cooper.

Colwyn Bay United v Nuneaton Town 19-10-1935

Colwyn Bay: Elliott; Edwards and L. H. Roberts; Johnstone, Meary and Bumford; Jones, Davies, James, D. Roberts and J. Williams.

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Tromans, Taylor, Bott and Cooper.

Nuneaton made the journey to Colwyn Bay for a Birmingham League fixture.

Nuneaton, aided by the wind, started very impressively and took the lead five minutes from the start with a penalty, awarded when Roberts, the Colwyn Bay left-back, handled



in the penalty area, and from the spot-kick Taylor netted easily. The Bay retaliated, and Wood saved a good drive by Jones, the outside-right, but Nuneaton were soon back again, Brindley testing Elliott, the home custodian, with a screw shot. Rain began to fall heavily at this point and this, plus the high wind, made ball control very difficult.

The quality of play suffered somewhat in consequence. Russell defended well in taking the ball off the toe of James, who had got through and was in front of the net. Nuneaton continued to have the better of the play, and when, after a few minutes, the Bay put on pressure they were rather wild in their finishing. Play continued to veer from end to end, but Nuneaton still continued to have the bulk of the play.

Good scoring chances were missed by Taylor and Ashall. Colwyn Bay equalised 38 minutes from the start. An attack on the left led to Jones being left with an open goal, no Nuneaton backs being anywhere near him. He profited by the easiest of openings. Even allowing for Colwyn Bay's alert and quick defence the score at half-time ought to have been well in favour of Town.

Colwyn Bay, with the advantage of the wind, became much more dangerous in the second half, and although Ashall, Bott and Tromans did well for Nuneaton soon after the resumption, the home team soon asserted themselves, with Nuneaton's defence having a very busy time. Dowsey saved a critical situation in the goalmouth. Colwyn were now attacking vigorously and with skill, and it was not surprising when Davis put through to give the home side the lead 12 minutes after the break.

From a pass by Taylor, Ashall flashed the ball across the mouth of the net. Cooper might have turned it in, but it was certainly travelling fast. Nuneaton were presently back again, but could not get into position for scoring. Wood came well out and collided with an opponent, being bowled over. While he was writhing on the ground, Davis scrambled the ball into the net, even though Russell had run back to cover. Thus, Colwyn increased the lead 21 minutes after the interval.

Although Nuneaton played strongly after this last reverse, they could make little impression owing to weak finishing. Shall, however, tested Elliott at very close range and Russell, who had gone right up to the attack, all but scored with a header close on time, Elliott just reaching the ball.

Nuneaton Town v Leamington Town 26-10-1935

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Tromans, Taylor, Bott and Walton.

Leamington: Handy; Sabin and Symonds; Reading, Green and Cole; Askew, Shanks, Forrest, Woodward and Eastwood.

Nuneaton travelled to Leamington Town for a Birmingham Senior Cup second round tie.

Nuneaton, who played like a winning team from the start, took the lead after six minutes. Ashall centred for Walton, who had moved towards the centre, to pass the ball high into

the net, giving Handy no chance. The home team retaliated and Wood had to kick away. A little later the Nuneaton custodian fumbled and almost lost the ball, but just managed to save. The home goal had a narrow escape when Bott sent the ball across the mouth of the net with the goalkeeper out of place. Taylor increased Nuneaton's lead 15 minutes from the start, with a superb shot from about 30 yards.

Nuneaton continued to be the better side, as Leamington lacked speed and finish. Leamington made one or two attempts to break through, but found the Nuneaton defence too good for them. Just before the interval, however, the home team did get through and Eastwood got the ball in, but the goal was disallowed for Forrest impeding the goalkeeper. Nuneaton found themselves offside on a number of occasions during the first half.

Nuneaton increased their lead seven minutes after the restart. Ashall centred and Handy fumbled and lost the ball. Taylor tried in vain to put it into the net, but Walton seized on the ball and successfully finished off the move, driving the ball into the net. Leamington tried hard to reduce the visitors' lead after this, and the Nuneaton defence had some hectic moments, but emerged successful.

Nuneaton's fourth goal came when the second half was 31 minutes old. Ashall centred for Bott to shoot. Before the keeper could save, Walton touched the ball into the corner of the net. Leamington at once retaliated and from a centre by Eastwood, Forrest headed a fine goal.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City A 02-11-1935

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Tromans, Taylor, Laycock and Walton.

Birmingham: Cooper; Trigg and Hughes; H. G. Groves, Butler and Derbyshire; Moffat, G. Stafford, H. Cole, Davis and J. Mills.

Nuneaton welcomed Birmingham City A to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Hospital Cup.

Nuneaton had most of the play throughout, and on the occasions when Birmingham became threatening they were thwarted by the home defence who worked energetically. Wood was a tower of strength in goal. Nuneaton attacked right from the start, Laycock, Ashall and Tromans being prominent, and Cooper, the Colts' custodian, had to save twice in succession, first punching the ball away from Ashall's centre, and immediately afterwards, kicking away from the same player. Russell did some good tackling when the visitors threatened, and Dowsey relieved another home raid.

Nuneaton took the lead 12 minutes from the start. Ashall centred and Taylor went through the backs and raced toward the goalkeeper. Cooper came out, but Taylor put the ball past him, and it rolled into the net. Play was mainly in favour of Nuneaton during the first 20 minutes and when the visitors eventually broke through, Wood made two superb saves from Cole and Stafford respectively. The ball was travelling away from him on both occasions and he flung himself smartly

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at it. Although the Colts put in some neat touches at times, they found themselves up against a wary and skilful defence. Wood kicked away with two opponents close to him.

Five minutes before the interval, Taylor slipped the ball neatly to Laycock, who was going for goal when he was brought down by a Birmingham back, almost in front of the net. A penalty kick was awarded with which Taylor easily found the net and at the break Nuneaton led by 2-0.

Five minutes after the resumption, Walton landed the ball in front of the net from a corner kick, and Taylor had only to deflect the ball into the goal. Play was now almost all in favour of Town. Tromans was struck hard in the face with the ball, this causing a short stoppage, but he was able to continue and a little later he broke through and passed to Ashall, who hit the side netting.

Birmingham attacked, but could make little impression. Tromans beat the defence and drew out the goalkeeper, but put wide of the goal. A quick interception by Russell checked the next effort by the visitors, and Cooper had to deal with a corner kick by Walton. Nuneaton swarmed round the Birmingham goal for a spell, and then Brown let in Mills, but the latter shot from a distance, and Wood saved.

There was a lot of midfield play towards the close, and then Nuneaton tried a raid on the left, but Walton was tackled. Taylor worked his way towards goal and tested Cooper with a good shot close on time. Cole got through but Wood made a daring tackle.

Bangor City v Nuneaton Town 09-11-1935

Bangor: Dale; Edwards and Davies; Wright, Turner and Griffiths; Jones, Booth, McKenzie, Short and Roberts.

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Tromans, Taylor, Laycock and Blessed.

Nuneaton made the journey to Bangor City for a Birmingham League encounter.

Nuneaton were first to attack, but were hampered by the wind. Bangor then pressed and Booth missed a good chance in front of goal. Wood was called upon but proved safe, and the visitors' defence was kept busy for a spell. A centre by the Bangor left wing caused trouble, and McKenzie headed over. Taylor passed out to Ashall who was checked. Laycock then made one or two praiseworthy efforts. Brown defended well when Bangor attacked.

An attack was started by Woodhall and Laycock, but Blessed failed to centre properly. The visitors were menacing for a while, then Wood was called on again, and Dowsey kicked out from another raid. Wood had to save a long shot by Turner. Nuneaton put pressure on, but the Bangor defence was sound. Wood was much the busier of the two keepers.

Bangor got through on the left and McKenzie went very close with a header. Taylor made a fine effort, but was hampered by the mud. Roberts sent behind for the City, but the defence

was on the run for a time until Russell cleared. Wood made a smart save following a home raid.

Blessed was overwhelmed when Nuneaton attacked, before Brindley sent the ball over to Ashall, but the ball stopped dead. Taylor shot from distance, and Dale saved a centre by Ashall. Nuneaton now had a good share of the play, but their forwards did not get into scoring positions. Fine work was put in by Russell in the Nuneaton defence, his kick being good despite the wretched ground conditions. Wood was tested by McKenzie, but the shot had not a great deal of sting behind it. Nuneaton were penalised for handball by Brown just outside the penalty area, but Griffiths' shot was deflected for a corner, from which Wood made a great save. The Nuneaton defence endured another warm spell before the interval.

Bangor pressed for a long period after the interval, and it came as a surprise when Nuneaton scored after 25 minutes of the second half. This came from a free-kick for handball a little outside the home penalty area. Russell took the kick and brought the goalkeeper to the ground. Dale appeared to have saved, but to everyone's astonishment the ball eluded his grasp and rolled into the net. It was a goal somewhat against the run of play, but it naturally put heart into Nuneaton, who monopolised play for a while and increased their lead four minutes after the first goal.

Taylor broke through and passed to Ashall, whose centre gave Blessed a golden opportunity to turn the ball in, of which he made full use. Several shots by Bangor were not far off target, and the City were the more aggressive side in the closing stages.

Nuneaton Town v Stafford Rangers 16-11-1935

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Tromans, Taylor, Laycock and Blessed.

Stafford Rangers: Darby; Bellamy and Snape; Horton, Duckers and Moss; Day, Chell, Cansfield, Luton and Wilson.

Nuneaton welcomed Stafford Rangers to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter.

Nuneaton attacked right from the start and Rangers were seldom in the home half during the early stages. When they did manage to advance they were easily repelled. Laycock hit the foot of the post for Town and Taylor made efforts to create an opening. Brindley started a move in midfield, but a Stafford back intervened. Woodhall stemmed a Stafford effort.

A visiting defender miskicked from Blessed and Laycock seized on the ball, but shot over. The Rangers transferred matters, and the home defence had to be watchful. Taylor passed between Blessed and Horton, from which the latter emerged victorious. Brown let in the visitors, and the Nuneaton goal was menaced for a while. A shot by Blessed had to be dealt with, and then came two centres by Ashall, from the second of which Tromans banged the ball into the net to give Town the lead 14 minutes from the start. It was a goal which they deserved on the run of play. Brown let in the visiting outside-left, who shot wide.



Brindley tested Darby from the wing and from the same attack, Blessed scored with a header, the goalkeeper appearing to touch the ball onto the post before it went in. Thus Town increased their lead after 28 minutes. Stafford made great efforts to reduce the lead and played good football. Dowsey kicked away from the line with Wood on the ground during a melee. Then Wood saved well from Day, who tested the goalkeeper again soon after with a warm drive from distance.

Nuneaton hit back and Laycock put the ball out to Taylor, who send out to Ashall. The latter centred and Darby was lucky to save from Blessed, by knocking the ball down. There was further excitement outside the Stafford goal before the interval when Brindley shot just over.

The second half resolved itself into a grim struggle and there was little to choose between the teams. Nuneaton failed in attack, but excelled in defence, Dowsey being prominent. Early after the resumption, Darby punched away from Blessed, and Ashall placed well with two corners, Taylor heading over from the second. At the other end, Wilson, the visitors' left-winger put in a dangerous centre, and Wood made a lightning save from Cansfield. Ashall made an attempt to turn the ball in after a pass by Taylor.

Russell shot over the bar from a free-kick for handball before Blessed shot wide following good work by Brindley. There was an exciting tussle in front of the Stafford goal, and then the visitors broke away, Wood making a grand save from Luton. Day shot over for the visitors before Tromans made a good run and finished by forcing a save from the keeper.

Brierley Hill Alliance v Nuneaton Town 23-11-1935

Brierley Hill: Corbett; Smart and Follis; Lambert, Short and Tate; Wilkinson, Haselgrave, Handley, Dainty and Scriven.

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Tromans, Taylor, Laycock and Blessed.

Nuneaton made the journey to Brierley Hill Alliance for a Birmingham Senior Cup third round tie.

The game opened sensationally. Alliance attacked hotly and simply bombarded Wood with shots. It was little short of a miracle how he managed to cope with them. Wood made a grand save from Handley, and then made an equally fine save from Scriven, the home outside-left, who sent in a stinging shot following fine work by Dainty. Then came a succession of shots and Wood emulated a jack-in-the-box and made some lightning saves, averting disaster for Town in the opening stages.

When eventually Nuneaton got a look in, Taylor shot over and a little later headed into Corbett's hands. Matters soon transferred again and the quickness of the Alliance attack proved disconcerting to the Nuneaton defence, but Dowsey put in some good work and Russell headed away a dangerous raid. After the match had been in progress about 25 minutes, Nuneaton improved and Tromans almost scored with a long shot which deceived the goalkeeper, who deflected the ball for a corner. Tromans passed to Taylor who skimmed the bar.

Nuneaton's superiority was short-lived and Alliance broke away. A fast raid ended in Wood bringing off another splendid save at close quarters. Tromans made an excellent solo effort and narrowly missed with a good drive. Alliance missed a glorious opportunity of taking the lead just before the interval when Handley missed an open goal after beating the backs. The first-half ended with a thrilling scene outside the Nuneaton goal, but when the whistle went the score was 0-0.

Brierley Hill made determined efforts to take the lead after the interval and were rewarded after 15 minutes. Scriven headed goalwards, but Wood saved, and Tate headed into the net. Shortly after there was a thrilling bombardment of Town's goal. The visitors equalised after 20 minutes of the second half with a great goal. Ashall centred and the ball went to Blessed, who returned it to the centre for Laycock to head in.

Nuneaton's hope that they would be able to force a draw vanished five minutes later when Handley put the home side ahead. The issue was put beyond all doubt when Handley scored again after the second half had been in progress for 35 minutes. To all intents and purposes he was offside when he received the ball but the goal was allowed. To give Nuneaton their due it must be said that they stuck to their task right up to the last minute and made heroic efforts to reduce the lead.

Nuneaton Town v Hednesford Town 30-11-1935

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Laycock, Taylor, Tromans and Sayce.

Hednesford: Price; Groves and Smith; Galley, Blunt and Thacker; Addis, Pearce, Jones, Fereday and Thomas.

Nuneaton welcomed Hednesford Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture.

Both teams attacked in turn early on, but it was Nuneaton that took the lead after 12 minutes. Ashall centred, and Sayce, who was in the goalmouth, bundled the ball in. The home team had the better of the play for a while but failed to drive home their advantage. Two sharp centres by Ashall cause trouble. A neat home move on the right produced a corner, but the visitors escaped.

Wood was tested by Addis, and then made a good save high up from Thomas. Play was transferred, but it was tame. From a centre by Ashall the ball struck the bar, following which Tromans shot wide. Five minutes before the interval, Blunt handled in the penalty area and despite strong protests by the visitors, a spot kick was awarded and Taylor scored.

On the resumption, the game was contested at a slightly faster pace, and Nuneaton, who continued to keep the upper hand, increased their lead after the second half had been in progress for 21 minutes. Tromans had a chance and took the ball quickly through the defence. His shot caused Price to fumble the ball, and Tromans, following up, pounced on the ball again and put it into the net.

Hednesford reduced the margin six minutes later. Jones, who was well up, successfully crowning a move by the right. Less



than a minute later, Sayce centred and Laycock shot, but Price saved. Sayce cut in and seized on the ball, and drove it into the top of the net from a difficult angle. The Hednesford goal had two narrow escapes from Sayce in the closing stages. Wood saved a penalty shot by Blunt in the last minute, but what the supposed infringement was, was not clear.

The game was a tame affair throughout and the football served up was not of a good quality. Nuneaton had most of the play, but their attack was by no means inspiring. The home forwards missed many chances, and if the home forward line was poor, the visitors' attack was even less impressive.

Directors Appeal For Support Season Financially Disastrous

The directors of the Nuneaton Football Club have released a statement appealing for support for the team. They state: "This season has so far been financially disastrous especially in respect of the amounts received from the English and Birmingham Cup matches. All the matches in those competitions have unfortunately been played away from home and the Nuneaton Club's share of the gates were: Redditch £14, Leamington £24, Leamington £22, Brierley Hill £17. Had these matches been played at Manor Park no doubt the club would have benefited, but luck was against them. In addition to all those misfortunes our match with Kidderminster Harriers, the best draw the club has, had to be postponed owing to the Harriers being still in the English Cup. This match would probably have attracted a £100 gate and as it will be necessary to play this match in midweek we anticipate a loss on the game of about £70.

"When one realises that the receipts of a home gate have to pay the expenses of an away game also, it will be realised that such gates as the last two home matches with Stafford Rangers (£43) and Hednesford (£31) are inadequate to carry on the club. It is absolutely necessary that we should have a net gate of £90. The result of the poor support we have received this season is that we have a very large overdraft at the bank and if the support at our future home matches does not considerably increase the outlook of the club will be very black indeed.

"The club have not a bad record and still have a chance of winning the League championship if one examines the League chart. Not a League match has been lost at home since the club joined the Birmingham League three years ago, and every possible point has been obtained this season with the wonderful record of only one goal scored against them; admitted the forwards are hardly good enough, but repeated efforts are being made to strengthen them.

"The directors have not had much encouragement in trying to improve the team and increasing their wages bill when gates are dwindling down. Still they are hoping for the best and trust that the future matches will be well attended, and that it will be proved that Nuneaton have a few thousand loyal supporters."

Oakengates Town v Nuneaton Town 07-12-1935

Oakengates: Goodchild; Lawley and Evans; Heaford, Chambers and Butler; F. Bullock, Rogers, J. Evans, Rowley and S. Bullock.

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Ashall, Laycock, Taylor, Tromans and Sayce.

Nuneaton made the journey to Oakengates Town for a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton had the better of the early exchanges, but a good centre by Sayce went begging. Some good work by the visitors' half-backs was a feature of the first few minutes, and Woodhall made a nice pass to Ashall, but the latter sent wide. Good centres were then put in by Sayce and Ashall, but nothing resulted. Each side attacked in turn and it was Oakengates who opened the scoring after 22 minutes, with a rather unusual goal. Wood was tested and saved, but immediately after F. Bullock, the home outside-right, shot and the ball went off Dowsey into the net.

Nuneaton equalised two minutes later. From a pass by Taylor, Laycock scored with a superb shot from just outside the penalty area. Nuneaton played up well after this, and shots were put in by Sayce and Tromans. Several dangerous raids were made by the home team, and Wood brought off one or two good saves. Nuneaton took the lead after 37 minutes when Sayce centred from a pass by Taylor and Tromans, following it up, beat the goalkeeper with a great shot. There were attacks at both ends during the remainder of the half, and the home team tried to equalise, but were erratic in their shooting.

Nuneaton resumed with confidence and dominated the play. Feeling ran high among the Oakengates' supporters and the referee had eventually to interrupt the game to speak to several of the spectators. Nuneaton looked like scoring at any moment, and a header by Sayce had to be dealt with by the custodian. The promised goal came 27 minutes after the break, through Laycock, who with a great chance, netted with a fantastic drive. Nuneaton were now all over their opponents, and Goodchild had to save three times in quick succession.

Fred Bullock scored an unexpected goal for the home team, six minutes later. Following a melee in front of the Nuneaton goal he put in a shot which had Wood beaten all the way.

Nuneaton Town v Cradley Heath 14-12-1935

Nuneaton: Wood; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Ashall, Laycock, McDonnell, Taylor and Sayce.

Cradley Heath: Birch; Clancey and Bridgwater; Ball, Newman and Webster; Jeavons, Price, Haywood, Caddick and Danks.

Nuneaton welcomed Cradley Heath to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match.

Nuneaton monopolised play in the early stages and there were exciting scenes outside the Cradley goal. The Heath defended well under constant pressure. From a movement on the Nuneaton left, McDonnell got the ball, beat his man and shot,



the ball going just wide. Taylor was prominent in the Nuneaton attack, working hard to create openings. After being penned in their own half for a long spell, Cradley broke away, but Danks was pulled up by Dowsey, and Nuneaton resumed their attack. Ashall came back onto the pitch after several minutes injury and Taylor went close with a good shot. McDonnell ought to have scored with the goalkeeper helpless.

Play continued in the visitors' territory and the game was very one-sided and devoid of much excitement apart from a shot by Laycock which forced Birch to save from close range. At the other end, Haywood got in a shot, from which Wood had to concede a corner. A neat Nuneaton movement by Taylor, Woodhall and Laycock ended with McDonnell being caught offside. Cradley broke away and scored after 35 minutes when Danks centred and during a scuffle, Caddick scored with a good shot into the corner of the net.

Nuneaton monopolised play again, and McDonnell headed against the post. There was an exciting scene around the Cradley goal, but several Nuneaton attackers failed to find the net. Sayce put in a fast volley from a pass by Taylor, but the ball went wide. Cradley keeper, Birch, saved a shot from McDonnell and followed up by saving a header from Laycock.

Both teams attacked in turn after the interval and Laycock went close for Nuneaton, who had most of the play for a time. Cradley, however, increased their lead eight minutes into the second half. Danks had a perfect opening from a pass by Caddick, and found the net with a good shot, though he only had the keeper to beat. Nuneaton pressed after this serious reverse, but failed with their shooting.

Wood saved brilliantly at full-length from a Haywood shot before Cradley carried out a lightning move and Danks shot the ball into the net, but it was given offside. Birch saved from a Laycock header as Nuneaton again had the better of the play and Sayce failed to break through a knot of opposition backs. Sayce shot into the keeper's hands following a Nuneaton rush, as the home side confined play to to their opponents' half towards the close, but failed dismally in front of goal.

Cradley must be given full credit for their victory, which was well-deserved.

Nuneaton's First Home Defeat Since 1933

Saturday's defeat was the first time Nuneaton have lost in a home League fixture since April 17, 1933, when they were beaten in the Birmingham Combination by Cheltenham Town by a goal to nil. So Cradley Heath's achievement is one of which they may well be proud. It was not, however, altogether unexpected, for the Nuneaton Town team this season is not a patch on the teams of the last two seasons, and it was inevitable that they would be defeated at Manor Park sooner or later, though it has perhaps come a little sooner than some supporters thought.

Nuneaton Goalkeeper Transferred to Coventry

Alf Wood, Nuneaton Town FC's young goalkeeper, was transferred to Coventry FC on Tuesday morning.

Wood comes from the Sutton Coldfield district and has gained a high reputation as a goalkeeper since he joined the Nuneaton Town Club early this season. His quickness and judgment, and safe fielding of the ball, have been noted in many matches he has played in the Birmingham League. He came to the Nuneaton Club as an amateur, but recently turned professional. Representatives of several big clubs have been watching him of late.

It is understood that the Nuneaton Club has received a small fee for the transfer of Wood. The City's present goalkeeper Pearson, by the way, also played for Nuneaton at one time.

Wood has been signed by Coventry to fill the vacancy caused by the transfer last week of Halliwell, the Reserves' goalkeeper, to Leicester City.

Nuneaton Town v Shrewsbury Res 21-12-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Bott; Ashall, Laycock, Taylor, Tromans and Sayce.

The game against Shrewsbury was abandoned after 15 minutes due to a thick fog which developed shortly after the kick-off. The referee waited another 15 minutes for the fog to clear before abandoning the game.

After the match a crowd of spectators waited outside the directors' office and there were complaints that many of them did not know that the match had been abandoned. There were also clamours for the return of the admission money or the issue of tickets for the match when it is eventually played. It was eventually announced by the Chairman of Directors that the Shrewsbury Club would not agree to the issue of tickets, and the Inland Revenue people had also to be considered.

Cardiff City Reserves v Nuneaton Town 25-12-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Russell; Laycock, Dowsey and Bott; Blessed, Ashall, Taylor, Tromans and Sayce.

Nuneaton lost their match at Ninian Park on Christmas Day by three clear goals.

It was a good game on the whole, with the City deserved winners, although Nuneaton were by no means a poor side.

There was little to choose between the teams in the first half, when McKenzie gave the City the lead after 35 minutes play. Prior to this Taylor had netted for Nuneaton, but the goal was disallowed for offside.

The second half saw the City having the better of the exchanges, and Taylor and Williams added further goals.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Woodhall was absent from the Nuneaton side owing to illness and Laycock went right-half with Blessed inside-right.

Nuneaton Town v Cardiff City Reserves 26-12-1935

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Bott; Ashall, Laycock, Taylor, Tromans and Sayce.

Cardiff City Reserves completed the “double” at Nuneaton’s expense by winning 3-2 at Manor Park on Boxing Day. Nuneaton had far more of the game than their opponents but frittered away many scoring chances.

Three minutes after half time, Nuneaton were deservedly leading by two goals, but when once the City had found the net, there was no holding them and inside a quarter of an hour they had not only wiped out Nuneaton’s lead, but had gone ahead. The game was won and lost in that brief period.

While the visitors should be complimented on winning a game that at one time seemed lost, “Nuns” must be congratulated, for they hardly deserved to lose – but it was the old, old story of wasted opportunities.

Taylor had a bad day for Nuneaton. He headed one neat goal, but missed quite three or four others through slowness or over-dribbling. Once, just before half-time, he got past the City backs and then tried to dribble the goalkeeper when a touch would have meant a certain goal. He failed on other occasions with equally easy openings.

Sayce, too, while playing a very useful game on the extreme left, missed a couple of goals through bad placing of the ball.

Nuneaton failed to stay and after Cardiff had scored their first goal their halves completely lost their grip on the opposing forwards, and Brown and Woodhall, particularly experienced a rough time with Lewis and Redwood. The latter played brilliantly in the second half and frequently outwitted the Nuneaton defence. McKenzie, on the other wing, also gave a very smart display, while Williams, in the centre, was quick to seize upon openings.

For more than half the game Nuneaton were the superior side and had enough chances in the first-half to have settled the issue. During this time Laycock was outstanding at inside-right. Apart from displaying clever footwork he shot admirably; indeed had the other home forwards done as well the “Nuns” would certainly not have lost.

It seems that Brown is beginning to feel the effects of many years in football. In this game he found Redwood’s speed most disturbing and times out of number had to be helped out by Russell.

Towards the end the game became unduly keen and infringements were frequent. The referee, too, got in the wars, one of the spectators rushing on to the field to express his indignation at some of his decisions.

Laycock and Taylor scored for Nuneaton and Williams (2) and Redwood for Cardiff.

Worcester City v Nuneaton Town 28-12-1935

Worcester: Wright; Jenkins and Ives; Blake, Beacham and Hobbs; Coulthard, Britton, McCabe, Edmunds and Wilkie.

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Laycock; Ashall, Taylor, Ball, Tromans and Sayce.

Nuneaton made the journey to Worcester City for a Birmingham League fixture.

Worcester attacked vigorously right from the start and the Nuneaton goal had a very narrow escape after about 10 minutes’ play. Taft had to come out to deal with a City raid and failed to gather the ball. The ball came in from the left and Wilkie, with Taft still on the ground and in front of an open goal, headed wide. Following good defensive work by Dowsey, Worcester rushed down again and Britton netted after 28 minutes.

Nuneaton made tracks and Ball hit the crossbar with a splendid shot from good range. City increased their lead four minutes after their first goal, Wilkie getting clean through with only the keeper to beat. Taft gathered the ball from Wilkie’s foot, but dropped it and it rolled over the line.

Worcester went further ahead nine minutes after the interval, Coulthard finding the target with a splendid shot from the wing. About two minutes later City scored again when Coulthard shot, Taft knocked the ball down, and Edmunds shot into the net. Straight from the kick-off Worcester scored their fifth goal of the afternoon when Richards netted with a volley.

Nuneaton tried to reduce the deficit and Laycock went close with a good volley. Taylor sent some useful passes out to the left, and Sayce eventually centred for Ashall to have a shot saved. City were all over their opponents for a spell, and were simply shooting in. Nuneaton had more of the play towards the close and Taylor made some good efforts to score but was given little support.

Nuneaton Town v Stourbridge 04-01-1936

Nuneaton: Taft; Hopkins and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Laycock; Ashall, Taylor, Ball, Tromans and Bott.

Stourbridge: Partridge; Edwards and Bowen; Bashford, Pimbley and Silvester; Griffiths, Wombwell, Froggatt, Hollingsworth and Lewis.

Nuneaton welcomed Stourbridge to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture. In a bid to improve gates, the board had been trying to sign Joe Robson, who played for the club last season.

The start was delayed for ten minutes owing to the late arrival of the visiting team, who had been held up in Birmingham due to traffic congestion. For the first few minutes, the game was evenly contested, and neither side was really dangerous. Eventually, however, Nuneaton took the lead after 19 minutes, following a corner. Bott centred for Ashall to net with a well-struck shot, which Partridge got to, but could not stop due to the force of the shot. Nuneaton



kept the upper hand for some time with Ball putting in some neat work. After being penned in their own half for a while the visitors broke away, and Lewis missed a good opportunity.

The same player made up for his mistake shortly after, netting with a good shot, though Taft should really have saved. This equaliser came after 32 minutes. Nuneaton attacked strongly and there were some good thrills in front of the visitors' goal, but three minutes before the interval, a blunder by Laycock let in the visitors, and Lewis hit the bar with a corner resulting. From the flag-kick a tussle developed and Froggatt scored a fine goal, though Taft was out of position.

Although Nuneaton had most of the play in the first-half and were first to score, they were a goal in arrears at the interval, the visitors having found the net twice.

Ball was injured straight after the break and had to leave the field for several minutes. After 15 minutes of ding-dong football, things began to happen, three goals coming in the space of four minutes. Froggatt, after missing a good chance, immediately redeemed himself by putting Stourbridge further ahead. Taft came out to him, but missed the ball and the centre-forward put the ball in. A minute later, while the Stourbridge backs were appealing for offside, Ball went through and scored. Two minutes later, Tromans scored the equaliser from Ball's pass. It was anyone's game after this and although Nuneaton tried hard in the closing stages they could not get the winning goal.

Stourbridge v Nuneaton Town 18-01-1936

Stourbridge: Partridge; Edwards and Bowen; Bashford, Pimbley and Silvester; Griffiths, Wombwell, Froggatt, Hollinsworth and Pearson.

Nuneaton: Russell; Brown and Symonds; Woodhall, Dowsey and Bott; Kent, Laycock, Ball, Tromans and Blessed.

Nuneaton made the journey to Stourbridge for a Birmingham League fixture. Conditions were far from ideal with the pitch being partly covered in snow. To make matters worse, Town's goalkeeper, Taft, failed to put in an appearance.

Things began to happen right from the start. Stourbridge were all over their opponents immediately and Pearson, their outside-left, after missing a good opportunity, immediately made up for his error by netting with a good shot into the corner of the net, after just five minutes. During the first 20 minutes Stourbridge had things pretty much their own way with Nuneaton mounting only two attacks worthy of the name.

It was fortunate that Stourbridge's forwards were erratic in their shooting during the early stages. Russell deflected a shot by Griffiths, the home outside-right, for a corner, and from the flag-kick, Silvester went close. Nuneaton tried hard to score and played some neat football, with a centre from Blessed being got away. Following some good passing work Kent, who had been showing up poorly, equalised with a really first-class shot into the far corner, after 20 minutes.

For the remainder of the first half Nuneaton gave a really good display, and held their own. On the occasions when the

home side did get going Russell played admirably in goal and made one or two excellent saves. Nuneaton made some good raids and Laycock put in some great work, his passes being remarkably accurate. However, Nuneaton conceded a penalty just before the break, when Symonds handled in the area and Bowen scored easily from the spot.

Little can be said in favour of Nuneaton in the second half, and the home forwards ran riot in the closing stages. The visitors rarely got a look in, and 17 minutes after the break Wombwell hit the bar and from the rebound he headed into the net, but the referee disallowed the goal for offside. Half-an-hour after the break Bott and Symonds had headed away in turn, but Bashford flashed over a great centre for Pearson to nod the ball into the net.

With three minutes to go, Wombwell scored a brilliant goal, Russell being only able to help the ball into the net. In the next minutes Froggatt added another goal.

Town FC's Players Asked To Take Wage Cut

Owing to the serious financial position of the Nuneaton Association Football Club, the players have been asked by the directors to agree to a reduction in wages. The directors feel that, owing to the recent lack of public support at Manor Park, they cannot continue for the time being to incur the present weekly wage bill, which is in the neighbourhood of £40.

A rumour that the players were not paid their wages last Saturday is contradicted. They were not paid their full wages, it is stated, but received part of them, and it is hoped the remainder will be made up in due course.

King George V Dies

Nuneaton learnt with profound sorrow of the death of His Majesty, King George V. His loyal subjects in this town and countless others throughout the Nation and Empire, heard with deep regret on Monday evening the sad news that the King's life was passing peacefully to its close.

No King could have been regarded with greater affection by his subjects. This was apparent during the Jubilee celebrations last year when Nuneaton, with the rest of the country, paid heartfelt tributes to the King and Queen. One must be thankful that His Majesty was spared to witness this great demonstration of loyalty, a demonstration with which he was deeply impressed.

The flags on the public buildings in Nuneaton flew at half-mast on Tuesday; many shops displayed mourning; social events were cancelled and places of amusement were closed; the King's death was the main topic, and the expressions of sorrow were many and sincere.



Wellington Town v Nuneaton Town 25-01-1936

Wellington: Hampton; Beachill and Buxton; Turner, Cawley and Nicholls; Simms, Nelson, Griffiths, Langford and Waller.

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Symonds; Woodhall, Dowsey and Bott; Ball, Laycock, Russell, Tromans and Blessed.

Nuneaton made the journey to Wellington Town for a Birmingham League fixture. A minute's silence was observed in memory of the late King George, which was followed by the singing of the National Anthem, in which the spectators joined. The players wore black armbands.

Wellington took the lead after five minutes, Griffiths scoring with a shot from 25 yards that had Taft beaten all the way. Wellington's passing and movements were quick and dangerous, and the Nuneaton defence was kept busy. The home side's second goal came after 20 minutes. Dowsey conceded a corner, from which Griffiths scored with a terrific shot into the top of the net. Two minutes later, the home side added to their score when Langford headed a good goal.

For a brief period play was transferred into Wellington's territory, and the visitors tried to score from a corner, when Bott's drive passed across the goal. Three minutes before the interval, Griffiths completed his hat-trick when his shot hit the upright, but glanced off the post and into the net.

In the second half, Wellington completely ran riot. Eight minutes from the restart, Nelson, Nuneaton's ex-captain, put the home side further ahead. Taft had a most gruelling time for the remainder of the game as the home side rained shots and centres. Griffiths headed in a goal from Waller's corner after 19 minutes of the second half before Laycock started a raid, but Bott and Tromans failed to break through.

Twenty-two minutes after the break, Waller netted with a shot inside the post, Taft throwing himself at the ball in vain. Griffiths scored from a free-kick four minutes later, Taft getting to the ball, but failing to stop it. Wellington swarmed round the visitors' goal and with six minutes to go, Nelson scored the home team's ninth goal. Langford got the tenth just before the close.

Nuneaton Town v Hereford United 01-02-1936

Nuneaton: Tipton; Russell and Symonds; Woodhall, Dowsey and Bott; Kent, Laycock, Robson, Tromans and Sayce.

Hereford: Blakemore; Ball and Oliver; Davis, Higham and Morgan; Richardson, Evans, Mardon, Burgess and Jones.

Nuneaton welcomed Hereford United to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter. Town welcomed back Joe Robson, who was centre-forward and leading goalscorer last season. He was unfortunate in getting injured in the New Year. There was a crowd of around 700.

Nuneaton attacked early on and Robson and Laycock were in the picture. After an unsuccessful Hereford raid, a pass by Laycock to Robson was intercepted, and a little later

Robson headed wide from a centre by Kent. The visitors were menacing for a spell before Robson passed out to Laycock, who was halted by a United defender. Some neat work by Laycock led to Nuneaton's first goal after 17 minutes. The inside-right swung the ball to the left and Robson let it go to Tromans, who nipped in and netted with an oblique shot.

Nuneaton kept the upper hand after this success, but had a narrow escape when United broke through and Richardson hit the upright. United had a narrow escape from a free-kick, shots being rained in by Woodhall and Laycock. Five minutes before half-time, Tromans was brought down by Higham in the penalty area and Robson scored with a fast drive.

The second half was a rather tame affair and was practically devoid of interest. Nuneaton were first to attack through Laycock, but Kent was prevented from getting the ball. United threatened, and Evans headed over. Mardon also missed for the visitors. Town pushed Hereford back for a while before two Hereford efforts fizzled out tamely and play was confined to midfield for a spell. Tipton brought off a save before Nuneaton retaliated and Woodhall tested Blakemore with a long shot.

During a tussle in front of the Hereford goal, Blakemore had to save from Tromans from close range. Laycock had a chance from Kent's centre, but failed to trap the ball. Shots were put in by Symonds and Sayce, and then Woodhall skimmed the bar. Hereford had three successive corners with Burgess testing Tipton from the last one. Hereford pressed in the closing stages, and Tipton had to save from Mardon.

Nuneaton Town's Fate In The Balance

Directors Make Immediate Appeal For £1,000

The fate of Nuneaton Town Football Club is in the balance and it depends on how the public respond to an appeal for £1,000, which is to be launched by the directors, whether the club will carry on or become defunct at the end of this month. The club's total liabilities amount to approximately £1,000, but the directors feel confident that Nuneaton people will not wish to see the club close down, and that the appeal will meet with a hearty response. The club's desperate plight is attributed to bad luck through injuries to players, no cup-tie draws at home and bad weather.

Putting Their Cards On The Table

The position was explained to the local Press at a special meeting of directors held at the Cock and Bear on Wednesday evening. The Chairman of the directors, Alderman F. P. Pembleton, presided and said the directors had invited the Press to meet them so that they could put all their cards on the table. The directors had had a very difficult position to deal with this season and the object of the meeting was to explain exactly the club's present position. The club this season had been dogged by bad luck. They were handicapped at the beginning of the season through injuries to players. Then again they were very unfortunate



in having nothing to arouse the enthusiasm of the public in the way of cup-tie games, not a single cup-tie having been drawn at home. In every possible way they had seemed to be unfortunate this season. Up to the present they had lost something like £450 on the season's working and the directors, after very carefully considering the position, had decided to make an appeal to the public for £1,000 to save the club. In the past the club had paid hundreds of pounds to charities, particularly to the Nuneaton General Hospital, and if the club was allowed to go defunct these institutions would suffer considerably thereby.

The Appeal

Mr F. J. Perry (Secretary) then read the following appeal which is to be made to local manufacturers and collieries, shopkeepers and the public generally: "In making an urgent appeal for funds, the directors of the Nuneaton Town AFC wish to place the full facts of the club's financial position before the public. At the end of January, 1936, the club's liabilities were £586 to tradesmen, players and staff, the directors are also responsible for a bank overdraft of £468. This season alone the club has lost £450 up to the date mentioned. To hold a respectable position in the Birmingham League, players of English League experience have to be engaged, and this is a very costly item and a speculation, for if the team does not strike a winning vein and have the luck to draw at home in the English and Birmingham Cup ties the support begins to fall off, and this has been the case with the club this season. The club has been hard hit through injury and illness to players which has weakened the side on many occasions. We hope that this appeal will be favourably received by you, and thus help to save the club. If the club goes defunct local charities, including the Nuneaton General Hospital, will suffer to the extent of hundreds of pounds. Thanking you in anticipation of a favourable response."

Alderman Pembleton said he felt confident that by putting their shoulders to the wheel they would be successful. He did not say to the extent of £1,000, but they could aim at that. He thought the appeal would certainly bring them in sufficient money to put them on their feet and enable them to go ahead.

Mr T. Ellis: We have given facilities for the unemployed to come in. We have dropped the gate, but it has not met with success. In fact the gate has been worse at 9d. than at a shilling.

Review Of Club's History In League

Mr W. Deans said that since the club re-entered the Birmingham League it had not been in the prosperous position the directors had anticipated. The change was made from the Birmingham Combination to that League three years ago to meet the desire of the majority of their spectators, who were tired of seeing the same teams year in and year out. The directors put the matter before the spectators, and a ballot showed that the majority were in favour of the Birmingham League. When the Club re-entered the League

the wage bill was £35 per week. They engaged Mr Carr at £5 a week to run the team, and the club met with fairly good success during the first season, but had it not been for the transfer of Dewis to Leicester City the club would have made a loss. They started the second season in the League with Mr Carr still as their manager. They tried to get a better team, and the weekly wage bill was increased in consequence. They thought they had succeeded, for up to Christmas they had not lost a League match, and they did well in the Birmingham Senior Cup also, reaching the final. Another transfer was made (Porter), but the club lost £9 on the season.

They started the present season full of hope, but everything had seemed against them. They were drawn at Redditch in the English Cup, and brought back £9 as a share of the gate. The weather was against them in the next League match. They went to Leamington in the second round of the Birmingham Cup, and came back with £20. These matches were losses for the wage bill was over £30 besides other expenses. The Kidderminster home match had to be postponed owing to the Harriers being engaged in the Cup, and this was a bitter blow to the club. The weather was still against them for the Shrewsbury match and the Cardiff match on Boxing Day. The Shrewsbury match was abandoned as a fiasco and ought never to have been started, but the referee had insisted on doing so. The result was they took £15 at the gate and as the match was started, Shrewsbury would want half the gate money when they came on Easter Tuesday. That was a dead loss to the club. During January there was one home match and four weeks' expenses to meet, but they still hoped the club would pull round. They started February with a home match with Hereford United and got £20 gross. They were still optimistic, and the Oswestry match brought in £36. But they could not run on gates like that. In the meantime the directors reduced the gate from a shilling to 9d., but it did not make one bit of difference. They had to do something to try and renew enthusiasm, so they re-engaged Robson and Wannacott, last season's players, but there was no bigger gate, and so the club today found itself in a very difficult position. It depended on the support they had whether the club would continue to go on this season or whether it became defunct. He thought it would be a great shame if football in Nuneaton was allowed to go West, and he felt sure the people would rally round them. They had done their best to carry on the club, but misfortune had dogged them all the way through the season. The players had been appealed to accept a reduction in wages and most of them had consented to a £1 or 10s. reduction per week.

Second Mortgage Refused

The fact was there was a mortgage on the ground to the Football Association of £1,700. They had paid off £400 and had applied to the Association to grant them a second mortgage on the ground, but the reply was that they did not make second mortgages to overcome bank overdrafts. He thought it was very unfair on the part of the Association because it was due to



the Association that the club was in its present position. They had to go away to play amateur sides, whose gates did not amount to more than £20 to £30. They had to play junior teams that had not the same expenses as Nuneaton to meet.

They were urgently in need of funds, and if the club was not successful in obtaining them there would be no course left open than to allow it to go defunct. It would be a serious blow to the town, for there was no doubt that the club increased trade in the town by bringing numerous spectators in. He hoped that the appeal would meet with that success that it deserved.

English Cup Preliminary Rounds Question

The question of the club having to play through the extra-preliminary rounds of the English Cup was then discussed, it being stated that the club was bound to make losses while it had to do this.

The Secretary remarked that they thought – and many other Birmingham League clubs were of the same opinion – that clubs of the standard of Nuneaton should be excused from playing in the preliminary rounds. Mr A. S. Round, the Birmingham League representative to the Football Association had pressed this matter.

Mr Deans said he brought the matter up at a Birmingham League meeting, and said it was a shame that they should have to play in the preliminary qualifying rounds, and that they should be excluded from at least two or more rounds. Mr Round promised to see what he could do with the Association, but nothing had come of it.

The chairman made reference to the mortgage on the ground, and stated that this had been reduced by £400, and they now owed the Association £1,300. Their estimate of the value of the ground was at least £3,500, so there was a good margin there.

Mr G. H. Whewey considered that if the club became defunct, it would be detrimental to the town and that the borough would lose a good advertisement, while various charities would suffer considerably.

Mr Deans then explained the scheme for making the appeal, and said the idea was to appeal to manufacturers, collieries and shopkeepers, and subscription list cards were to be put in prominent buildings in the town. The directors themselves were making personal appeals. They were determined to have no stone unturned to raise the money so that the club could be put on a firm basis.

Mr J. Stanley: I think there are enough sportsmen in the town to keep this club going.

Appeal Starts Well

Alderman Pembleton: We have started very well. We have got a few subscriptions already, and if the directors only carry out what we have determined I think it will be a success.

Mr Deans: Mr Stanley has already collected 140 shillings for the shilling fund since Monday night.

Mr Ford remarked that the directors were doing their share in subscribing to the fund.

Mr Perry mentioned that four directors had guaranteed to take the team to Shrewsbury on Saturday at no expense to the club in order to save travelling expenses.

Use Of Ground In Summer Months

In reply to a question as to whether use could be made of the ground in summer months to bring in revenue, the secretary said two sports clubs had got the ground this summer for cricket and tennis, and also a cricket knock-out competition for all the local clubs was to be run.

Mr Deans: Any applications which come forward for use of the ground during the summer months will be most favourably received by the directors.

Alderman Pembleton: Last football season our returns were down £200.

Mr Deans: It is a most serious matter, and it depends on the success of the appeal whether the club will continue after the end of this month. It is impossible to go on losing over £30 on every home match we have.

Alderman Pembleton: Personally, I have every confidence in this appeal.

The Secretary referred to an Atherstone player, Hamblett, and said that the player signed papers for Nuneaton before he signed on for Atherstone. On one occasion he promised definitely to play for Nuneaton and told his pals that he was going to do so, but he let Nuneaton down and played for Atherstone.

Alderman Pembleton: Our position would have been considerably worse had it not been for a handsome voluntary donation from Coventry, or our overdraft would have been much worse. There is one bright feature. We have, so far as I can see, some of the best teams to meet in the future. We have eight more matches at home including the re-arranged games with Kidderminster and Shrewsbury. If we can't get better gates the only conclusion we can come to is that they don't want Birmingham League football in Nuneaton.

Mr Deans mentioned that owing to Nuneaton being right out of the area the club's expenses were heavier than many other teams in the League.

Nuneaton Town v Oswestry Town

08-02-1936

Nuneaton: Tipton; Russell and Symonds; Woodhall, Dowsey and Bott; Tromans, Laycock, Robson, Wannacott and Sayce.

Oswestry: Davies; Roberts and Sambrook; Perry, Mound and Edwards; Hughes, Formstone, Armstrong, Howell and Garside.

Nuneaton welcomed Oswestry Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter. The match saw the return of Ben Wannacott to the team.

Oswestry attacked soon after the start, but Nuneaton soon transferred play, and from a pass by Sayce, Robson almost



succeeded in turning the ball in. Good work was put in by the Nuneaton half-backs, and then Robson fell when about to shoot, following which Woodhall shot over from good range. Pressed by Robson, the visitors conceded a corner, from which Sayce placed badly. Neat work by Dowsey frustrated a raid by the visitors. During the first 20 minutes neither side looked like scoring, but Nuneaton had more chances.

Nuneaton continued to have most of the play, but the Oswestry defence held firm against repeated onslaughts. Eventually, Woodhall tested Davies, with a well-aimed shot. Tromans then came into the picture for a time. This player missed at the foot of the post, and Tromans later won a corner, from which Bott went close. Nuneaton took the lead six minutes before the interval, when from a pass by Wannacott, Robson bundled the ball into the net. Nuneaton missed an excellent opportunity of going further ahead a couple of minutes later, when they were awarded a penalty for a foul by an Oswestry defender. Robson, that past master of the penalty kick, took the spot kick, but what everyone expected to be a certain goal did not materialise, as Davies saved. It was Nuneaton's first penalty miss of the season.

Nuneaton increased their lead 17 minutes after the interval. Wannacott made the opportunity with a grand solo effort, dribbling his way through, and then slipping the ball to Robson, for the latter to score with a shot in the bottom of the net. The centre-forward was injured in the effort, but was able to continue.

The visitors had a narrow escape when Robson hit the underside of the bar with great force, the ball coming into play again. Oswestry made one or two desperate efforts to reduce Nuneaton's lead, but their raids were successfully dealt with. In the closing stages, Nuneaton were all over their opponents and Robson and Wannacott put in some good work.

Shrewsbury Reserves v Nuneaton Town 15-02-1936

Shrewsbury: Parkinson; Ramsey and Holmes; Wheeler, Matthews and Wassall; Jeavons, Sharp, Hewitson, Weyness and Lucas.

Nuneaton: Tipton; Russell and Symonds; Woodhall, Dowsey and Bott; Tromans, Laycock, Robson, Taylor and Sayce.

Nuneaton made the journey to Shrewsbury for a Birmingham League match.

Nuneaton did most of the attacking in the first few minutes, and Bott and Symonds showed up well. The visitors did not maintain their promise, however, and Shrewsbury soon obtained a mastery and had the bulk of the play. Wheeler missed a splendid chance from a corner on the left. About 15 minutes from the start Hewitson was alleged to have been fouled in the penalty area, and a spot kick was awarded. Hewitson took the kick, but put in a tame shot, the ball striking Tipton's knee and rebounding back into play.

Shrewsbury took the lead five minutes later. Lucas, with a shot from the wing, putting the ball into the far corner of the net. Half-an-hour from the start, Shrewsbury increased their

lead, Hewitson netting with a neat shot. Two or three minutes before the interval the same player put the home team further ahead after easily beating Tipton.

Nuneaton opened the second half in determined fashion and reduced the deficit within three minutes. The forwards combined splendidly, and from a pass by Laycock, Sayce beat his man and netted with a brilliant screw shot. Shrewsbury pressed, and Lucas gave much trouble, twice testing Tipton, who saved smartly each time. Play was uneventful for a while until Robson won a corner and Parkinson was forced to tip over the bar from Sayce's flag-kick.

With the second half 15 minutes old, Sayce centred into the mouth of the net. Parkinson moved to meet the ball, but missed it and Laycock, flinging himself to the ground, caught the ball with his head and deflected it into the goal. From a shot by Sayce, who had gone inside-left, the ball almost rolled into the net, the goalkeeper just managing to recover. Tromans hit the bar with a hard volley, and from the rebound Laycock had a stinging shot stopped. Robson almost got through, as Nuneaton did all the pressing, but could not get another goal.

Colwyn Bay Suspended

Town FC had a shock on Friday, when the Secretary, received a telegram from Colwyn Bay FC, who were due to visit Manor Park: "Not Playing Saturday. Suspended."

This turned out to be a blessing in disguise, as a blizzard raged throughout the afternoon, and had Colwyn Bay fulfilled their fixture, it is almost certain that the match would have been abandoned, which would have been a worse blow to the Nuneaton club than was the case.

Nuneaton Town v Wellington Town 29-02-1936

Nuneaton: Tipton; Russell and Symonds; Woodhall, Dowsey and Bott; Tromans, Laycock, Robson, Wannacott and Sayce.

Wellington: Hampton; Birchill and Buxton; Turner, Cawley and Nicholls; Simms, Nelson, Griffiths, Langford and Waller.

Nuneaton welcomed Wellington Town, the league leaders and current champions, to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match. There were about 1,500 spectators.

Nuneaton started well and one or two dangerous raids were initiated by Wannacott, who eventually shot over the bar. The first few minutes of play were all in favour of Nuneaton, but, unfortunately, it was only a flash in the pan. The game had been in progress 10 minutes when Wellington took the lead. Simms put in a lightning centre from which Tipton failed to gather the ball properly, and Waller put the ball into the net.

Nuneaton retaliated, and from a good centre by Bott, Laycock failed to trap the ball as it passed across the goal. Following some neat combined work by the home attack, Bott sent wide, and then a good centre by Wannacott was wasted. Wellington carried out a splendid combined movement the length of the field, which ended in Griffiths testing Tipton with a superb shot.



Kidderminster Harriers v Nuneaton Town 07-03-1936

Kidderminster: Allen; Blake and Talbot; Staley, Watson and Birch; Adey, Salters, Bowell, Wilson and Austin.

Nuneaton: Tipton; Brown and Symonds; Woodhall, Dowsey and Wannacott; Haycock, Tromans, Robson, Bott and Sayce.

The visitors now took charge of the game, being quicker on the ball than Nuneaton, and increased their lead after 27 minutes. This followed a bad mistake by Symonds, who passed the ball towards his own goal and Simms had little trouble in putting the ball into the net.

The visitors scored a third goal after 35 minutes, through Nelson, who netted from about 25 yards. Tipton was not in position to receive the shot and tried to make a one-handed save, but could only help the ball into the net. The Shropshire side went very close to scoring again before the interval.

Conditions were very bad in the second half, with the rain turning to sleet. Nuneaton pressed on the re-start, but were still lacking in method. The visitors were much more dangerous when they broke away, and Griffiths went close with a fast drive. A praiseworthy effort was made by Sayce, who beat his man, but failed to pass properly. Wellington missed a good opportunity of putting themselves further ahead when Griffiths, from a centre on the left, missed an open goal.

Some roughness crept into the game during the last 20 minutes, and the referee had to speak to a player on each side. Tipton played well when the Nuneaton goal was visited, but Wellington went further ahead half-an-hour after the restart. Simms got past Symonds, and netted with a good shot, thus scoring Wellington's hundredth goal of the season. Five minutes later Simms got clean away, and centred for Longford to head the ball into the corner of the net.

Town's Position Still Serious

At a general meeting of the Nuneaton Association Football Club on Wednesday, it was indicated that the club's position was still serious.

In reply to a question, the Chairman, Alderman F. P. Pembleton, said it depended on the gates, as to whether they could carry on until the end of the season. They had been taking, the last few matches at home, just enough to pay expenses for a week instead of a fortnight. They took £42 net last Saturday. They had £35 odd to pay for wages. If they could average a gate at home matches of £70 and £80 they could pay their way to the end of the season, and the appeal fund could be utilised for paying tradesmen's accounts which were owing, the overdraft at the bank, and some back wages owing to players.

Rotten Bad Luck

Mr T. Ford, another director, said they had been fighting all the season against rotten back luck. They wanted to make the appeal fund £500, and then they could start the following season.

Mr Deans said the directors were now responsible for £500 at the bank. He thought they had done their share.

It was decided to form a Supporters' Club with the object of raising further funds.

Nuneaton made the journey to Kidderminster Harriers for a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton had the wind in their favour in the first-half and the Harriers had two narrow escapes after about ten minutes when, from a centre by Laycock, Robson tested Allen with a header. Immediately after which Bott, with a fine drive, caused the goalkeeper to tip over. Nuneaton had the better of matters for some minutes, and then the Harriers tried to attack on the right, but were stopped by Symonds. When the Harriers made a breakaway Boswell went close with a surprise drive from good range.

The home side began to assert themselves and some good defensive work was put in by Dowsey. Harriers took the lead just before half-time. A quick move had Town's defence in a tangle, and following a passing bout between Adey and Boswell, Wilson found the net with a brilliant shot. For the remainder of the first-half, Kidderminster were the more dangerous side.

The second half opened in exciting fashion, the Harriers setting up a hot attack as a result of which Tipton had to save full-length from Boswell, and could only push the ball away. Adey returned it and Tipton again saved. For practically the whole of the remainder of the game the Harriers kept the upper hand, and about five minutes from the close their efforts were rewarded when Austin placed well with a corner kick for Boswell to head straight into the net.

Town held their own and during the first 20 minutes, kept their opponents penned in their own half and looked the better team. They did not maintain their early promise, however, and in the second half they became very scrappy.

Meeting Of Supporters' Club

A meeting was held on Wednesday night when officers for the new Supporters' Club were elected. Mr H. Oliver presided and amongst those present were Messrs. H. Deans and T. Ford (directors, Nuneaton Town AFC) and Mr Fred Payne (former secretary-manager).

The Chairman said the subject of the meeting was to see what could be done to help the Football Club on to a sounder foundation. Mr W. Hardy was elected Chairman, Mr Oliver, secretary, and Mr P. Osborne, treasurer.

During the proceedings collection cards were handed round to those present, and it was decided that collectors should meet each Wednesday so that their subscriptions could be acknowledged in the list which is published each week.



Nuneaton Town v Bangor City 14-03-1936

Nuneaton: Tipton; Brown and Symonds; Woodhall, Dowsey and Wannacott; Blessed, Tromans, Robson, Bott and Sayce.

Bangor City: Gale; L. Davis and Price; Williamson, Edwards and Griffiths; Stanley, Booth, E. Davis, McKenzie and Jones.

Nuneaton welcomed Bangor City to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter.

The game opened sensationally, Town scoring in the first minute. A movement was started by Wannacott from which Tromans scored with a fine shot. Sayce and Robson led another Nuneaton effort immediately after, from which Blessed hit the side netting. The same player almost scored a few moments later with a shot that cannoned off a City back, and almost deceived the keeper, who only just saved. Both sides attacked in turn, but Town had the major portion of the play.

A few minutes before the interval Woodhall started a move, and from a neat centre by Blessed, Robson went close. Bangor became dangerous and Tipton made several fine saves for which he was applauded. Half-an-hour from the start Robson put in a dangerous header, and the Bangor right back averted a certain goal by knocking the ball out with his hand, from just under the bar. A penalty was awarded, which Robson took, but he put in a poor shot which Gale had little difficulty in saving.

Town pressed strongly on the resumption, and as a result of good work by Woodhall, Tromans got the ball and scored with a smashing shot 15 minutes after the break. Then came a dramatic change in the game. Bangor pressed and McKenzie headed a neat goal. A minute later, the visitors swarmed back and Jones shot was fumbled by Tipton, and went into the net.

Thirty-two minutes into the second half, E. Davis, the Bangor centre-forward, beat Wannacott in the vicinity of goal and found the net. Nuneaton made strenuous but unsuccessful efforts to get level again in the last few minutes.

Things might have been different had Nuneaton made the most of their scoring chances during the first half, but unfortunately they did not, or otherwise their one goal lead at the interval might easily have been three.

The home forwards taken as a whole gave a fairly bright display, and Tromans showed great brilliance. This player has shown steady improvement during the last few weeks, and on Saturday he crowned his efforts by scoring both of Nuneaton's goals. He played a hard and skilful game and put in some first-time shots. He was easily the best Nuneaton forward. Blessed, who returned to the side as outside-right after a lengthy absence, was also prominent. As for Robson, it could not be said that he did not have plenty of opportunities of scoring, but although he was often in the picture his shooting was very poor. The Nuneaton defence was none too safe at times, but Tipton played well in goal. The Town keeper fumbled the ball for Bangor's second goal, but more than made up for this with his general play.

Town Not To Continue In Birmingham League

Nuneaton Town Football Club is not to discontinue its membership of the Birmingham League. This important decision was arrived at by the directors last night. It has not yet been decided whether the club will enter the Birmingham Combination next season or even whether the Club will continue to function.

As is well known, Nuneaton Town have been dogged by ill-luck this season. Everything has gone wrong. At the beginning of the season the Club was handicapped through injuries to players, and then came the further misfortune of no cup-ties drawn at home to arouse the enthusiasm of the public. The Club has also been unfortunate in other ways, and as a consequence the gates have fallen off to an alarming extent. A series of defeats in recent weeks has not improved matters, with the result that the club has dropped down the League table and at present there are only three teams below it.

Stafford Rangers v Nuneaton Town 21-03-1936

Stafford: Bacon; Smith and Duckers; Chell, Whittaker and Moss; Cook, Smith, Crossfield, Luton and Wilson.

Nuneaton: Tipton; Brown and Russell; Wannacott, Dowsey and Laycock; Blessed, Tromans, Robson, Ball and Bott.

Nuneaton made the journey to Stafford Rangers for a Birmingham League match.

The game was contested at a fast pace in the early stages. The Rangers were first to attack and Tipton made a neat save from Wilson. Stafford missed a glorious opportunity of scoring about ten minutes from the start when, following a Nuneaton attack, the tables were suddenly turned and Cook sent the ball across the goalmouth for Wilson, who failed in front of an open goal.

A free-kick was awarded to Nuneaton soon after, just outside the penalty area, and Laycock sent high over the bar, when he might have scored. Nuneaton kept the home side on the defensive for some minutes, and it came as a shock to them when the Rangers scored from a breakaway after the game had been in progress for 15 minutes. Wilson made a great solo dash, cut through the Nuneaton defence like butter, and scored with a superb shot, which had Tipton beaten all the way.

The remainder of the first-half was fairly evenly contested, although Nuneaton monopolised the play for lengthy periods. Blessed was caught offside and just after the same player missed from close quarters when a goal seemed certain. Shots were put in by Bott and Wannacott, and then Ball made one of the best efforts of the match, which ended with him testing the keeper with a neat shot. A promising attack just on half-time ended with Blessed again missing.

Five minutes after the interval the home side increased their lead, Wilson heading in following a tussle from a corner, with



Tipton out of position. Stafford scored their third goal 38 minutes after the break when Luton, the Rangers' inside-left, got in a hard shot which Tipton stopped by knocking the ball down, and Wilson pounced on it to score.

Nuneaton Town v Kidderminster Harriers 26-03-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Brown and Russell; Higham, Dowsey and Wannacott; Kent, Tromans, Robson, Laycock and Bott.

Kidderminster: Allen; Blake and Talbot; Staley, Watson and Jakeman; Austin, Salter, Boswell, Wilson and Bowden.

Nuneaton welcomed Kidderminster Harriers to Manor Park on Thursday evening for a Birmingham League game.

Weather conditions were against good football and the game was a rather scrappy one. The first-half was fairly evenly contested and was goalless. Nuneaton missed one good opportunity when Kent, with an open goal, slipped just as he was about to shoot. The Harriers had a dangerous set of forwards and the Nuneaton goal had several narrow escapes.

Kidderminster took the lead a minute after the interval through Boswell, and 15 minutes later Wilson put the visitors further ahead from a pass by Bowden. The Harriers continued to have the better of things and were rewarded when Bowden made a fine solo effort and scored with a good shot. Three goals down, Nuneaton fought desperately and Wannacott reduced the deficit with a stinging shot which gave the keeper no chance.

A minute later Nuneaton were awarded a penalty which was taken by Wannacott, who scored again. Nuneaton were again weak in attack, but put in some good defensive work. Tromans and Laycock were the best of a moderate forward line. Wannacott was a hard worker at left-half, while Russell was outstanding at left-back.

Nuneaton Town v Dudley Town 28-03-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Wannacott; Kent, Tromans, Roberts, Laycock and Bott.

Dudley: Edgington; Langford and Perry; Cartwright, Beck and Blunt; Slater, Carpenter, Botton, Hawkes and Edwards.

Nuneaton welcomed Dudley Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton soon settled down and took the lead after 15 minutes. Receiving a pass from Roberts, Bott scored with a stinging shot. After this Nuneaton had the bulk of the play and Bott was prominent. One of his centres ought to have meant a certain goal, had one of his fellow forwards been able to get to the ball.

Play became very interesting and Dudley were menacing at times, and missed an opportunity of equalising when Rotton failed to take advantage of an open goal. The Dudley goal had a narrow escape when Kent hit the underside of the bar. A shot by Woodhall produced a corner, from which Roberts made an attempt. The game was interesting and chiefly in favour of Nuneaton.

Tromans went close with a shot following a pass from Kent, the ball going over the angle. Edgington had to field a centre by Bott and a hard volley by Wannacott. Dudley had another narrow escape when Laycock put the ball out to Bott, who centred. Perry, the visitors left-back almost put through his own goal. Close on half-time Bott won another corner, from which Edgington rushed out and punched clear.

Dudley made determined efforts to equalise after half-time, and were rewarded after three minutes, when Hawkes netted with a drive from 30 yards. A minute later the home side found themselves in arrears. Carpenter profited from a blunder in defence, and scored from an awkward angle, the ball going just inside the post, giving the keeper no chance. The tables had been turned on Nuneaton, for Dudley were now the better side and the home goal survived some narrow escapes.

Hawkes hit the woodwork, and Richardson had to come out to deal with a subsequent raid. The home defence was apt to be shaky under the heavy pressure exerted by the Dudley forwards, and the hearts of the Nuneaton supporters, about 800 of them, must have been in their boots for a time. It came as a relief when 17 minutes after the break, Nuneaton equalised. Bott broke away from midfield and dribbled well before putting over a grand centre, which Kent met with his head to score a capital goal, with Edgington out of position. Play for the remainder of the game was very exciting. Both sides strained every nerve to score and there were thrills in front of both goals. In the closing stages, Nuneaton swarmed round their opponents' goal, but Dudley made one last effort, and Richardson did well to save a shot by Rotton.

Will Town Carry On?

Suggestion To Sell Manor Park

Nuneaton Town Football Club's future was in the balance last night when there was a meeting of directors and shareholders to consider the best means of rescuing the club from its serious financial position. Alderman F. P. Pembleton, Chairman, presided over a very small attendance.

The Chairman said: "It never rains but what it pours." He thought they would agree that they had had a deluge of bad luck this season. It started early in September. First of all they had injuries, and then came bad weather. When Wellington visited them, it was a fearfully wet day, and their gate receipts dropped to as low as £24. At the beginning of the season their expenses were something like £40, today they had reduced them to about £25.

Lost £1,200 In Gate Receipts

The cause of the whole financial trouble had been the fall in the gate receipts. There had been a loss of something like £1,200 on gate receipts alone, £800 of which had been lost in cup-ties. The directors had taken every care to reduce the expenditure, they had done everything human possible under the circumstances. They had even taken the team to

matches in their cars to keep down expenses. He could assure them that the directors had had anything but a pleasant time, and he would like to mention the loyalty of the players, some of whom had accepted reduced wages.

The Club had three home matches during the weekend and they wanted at least £120 to cover the expenses of the next month from these matches. He hoped that the public would rally round and help all they could.

There was one other point, the reason why they had not called the shareholders together sooner. The directors were anxious to do all they possibly could before calling a shareholders meeting to try and get the finances out of the state of chaos. A public appeal was opened to which up to the present £120 to £130 had been subscribed. They were also hoping that the Supporters' Club would be able to do something in addition. The directors had subscribed themselves, and on occasions had put their hands in their pockets to find the players' wages.

Disappointed With Appeal

He thanked the Press for their help in giving publicity to the Appeal Fund. They had been disappointed with the appeal. It had been hoped that it would bring in considerably more. There were, however, one or two projects coming along. A sports meeting organised by Mr Tom Ellis, was to take place on May 2.

Mr G. S. Whewey said they must get down to the root of the matter as to what caused their trouble. Facts spoke for themselves. For eight years the club was in the Birmingham Combination and it paid its way. Previous to that there had not been a profit made in the history of the Club. Previous to entering the Birmingham Combination they tried the Southern League and the District League, but the public fell down at better-class football.

After the period in the Combination, the directors decided to apply for membership of the Third Division. Some of the directors were of the opinion that there was nothing between the Birmingham Combination and the Third Division that would pay in Nuneaton. There was not! They were informed by the League that there was nothing against the Club except their finances. They were told to consolidate their finances and try again, for if the Club had one bad season where would it be? They had had that one bad season and they were floored through lack of finances.

Their Biggest Mistake!

It was the biggest mistake the directors had made when they decided to leave the Combination and enter the Birmingham League. The expenses were too great and the class of football did not warrant that extra expenditure. If they could have had Third Division football in Nuneaton the public would not have gone to Coventry, but they would not pay to see District League football. But the mistake was made, and all the work

of those eight years in the Birmingham Combination, the profit made, the money paid to the Football Association had been lost in twelve months. They were in that state and they had got to get out of it somehow. They did not want Association football to die out in Nuneaton, they wanted to keep it going, and that was why the directors had called a shareholders' meeting that night.

Sell Manor Park On Condition

If any gentleman in this room will come forward and take over the liabilities of the present directors we are willing to resign en bloc," said Mr Whewey. Further, the directors are willing to sell Manor Park on certain conditions – that is at a certain price and on certain conditions with regard to the lease to the Club, say ten years lease and an option of a further ten years, and first refusal on re-purchase. If this did come about and certain gentlemen, or a syndicate, or any other body came forward and wished to purchase Manor Park, the directors are willing to sell on those conditions.

Mr J. Payne remarked that they could not do this without the shareholders' consent.

Mr Whewey remarked that was for discussion at the meeting. The point was that something had to be done very soon or their liabilities would exceed their assets, which they did not do at present. They considered the Club was over £2,000 in debt, including the debt to the Football Association on the ground, which amounted to £1,400. Then there was money owing to players, a £500 overdraft at bank for which the directors were responsible and other expenses bring the total to over £2,000. If they sold Manor Park there would be £500 or £600 balance to start next season.

The Birmingham Combination

He thought there was no doubt that they would become members of the Birmingham Combination. At the Combination meeting a fortnight ago he heard that it was pretty unanimous that Nuneaton should be admitted. They would get the local rivalry back again, and they would get local interest by having local players in other teams that came to play them. In the District League this was not possible. Then again the District League brought very few away spectators to Manor Park. In the directors' opinion they had got to go back to the Birmingham Combination to save the Club. But what about the debts owing now?

Mr J. Payne asked if £2,000 was the exact state of affairs.

The Chairman replied that including the bank overdraft and all the accounts, plus the mortgage, the amount was £2,400.

Mr F. Payne: I take it that it will come to that at the end of the season.

The Chairman: We want £120.

The secretary, Mr F. J. Perry, explained that £2,400 would be approximately the amount of the debt at the end of the season.



Mr J. Payne: Is the selling of the ground the only suggestion the directors can make? Does Mr Wheway speak on behalf of the directors?

Mr Wheway: Certainly.

Opposition To Sale Of Ground

Mr Payne said he was strongly opposed to the selling of the ground. He did not think it was necessary. He thought the Club could be saved by its assets. He suggested that three members of shareholders present and two directors present, form a committee to go into affairs and put forward their recommendations at a meeting of shareholders.

Continuing, Mr Payne remarked that there was no writ against the club, and no one was pressing for money. They had got their future in the Birmingham Combination. Was there any fear of them not being able to carry out their obligations if they entered the Combination next season.

Mr Wheway: Yes, £200 to pay the players. How are we going to carry on until that is paid off?

Mr Payne: Has the FA used any threats?

The Chairman: They have pressed us for the money.

Mr Payne: They have not threatened to foreclose?

The Chairman: No.

In answer to further questions the Chairman said the £200 owed to the players was after the reductions had been made.

Mr Payne said he congratulated the players on accepting the reductions.

Mr Butler said they had not drawn a cheque on the bank since December.

The Chairman adding that they had carried on with the gate money and unfortunately they had had to use some of the money from the appeal.

Mr Perry in explaining the loss of £800 on the cup-ties this year said that last year the cup-ties realised £1,007 7s. 8d. and this year the cup-ties had realised £200 18s. 8d.

Midland Section Suggested

Mr F. Payne said they should never have gone in the Birmingham League. It was his idea that the County FA in the Midlands should meet and discuss the forming of a Midland section of the Third Division. Nuneaton's effort to get in the Third Division had now been all destroyed. There was no football between the Birmingham Combination and the Third Division. The Birmingham League existed for broken down English League players and they wanted English League wages which no club could afford. No man in the Birmingham League was worth 10s. a minute and that was what they had been paying.

Mr T. Ford thought one of the faults of the directors was that they had taken too much notice of public opinion in regard to

certain players and public opinion had let them down. Unless they had a team that was always winning, their gates fell off.

Mr Wheway said it cost the Club £16 to go to Colwyn Bay and when Colwyn visited Nuneaton the gate was only £6. They could not carry on without help from somewhere.

Mr F. Payne said it appeared as if the directors were "down in the dumps." Could they issue the remaining shares?

The Chairman said there was no prospects of further shares being taken up when they had paid no dividends.

Mr Butler said at present the directors had to stand guarantee at the bank for £500 to provide football in Nuneaton.

Mr Keeley: Have the public got confidence in the directors?

Willing To Resign

Mr Butler: We are willing to resign en bloc now if you like.

Mr Keeley: Now you are at the end of your tether.

Mr Wheway: We have done our best to carry on.

The Chairman said they had put their cards on the table and he would now like to hear about Mr Payne's project of forming a new club.

Mr J. Payne: I shall never take a share in forming a new club or serve on the committee of a new club or any committee for the rest of my life.

The Chairman said the directors had made themselves liable for £500. Were there shareholders who could come forward and sign for a further amount of £200.

Mr Butler said he was prepared to make a proposition that the Nuneaton Football Club go into liquidation.

Chairman: I think it would be very unsportsmanlike and very unwise to go into liquidation.

Mr Thomas: I think it is a disgusting suggestion to come from a fellow director. We have not come forward.

Mr Wheway: We have the promise from Messrs. Bass, Ratcliffe and if we do rejoin the Birmingham Combination they will give us a substantial donation. Are there any shareholders to come forward and help us at this present junction?

Mr Butler: That is my point in my drastic resolution. We are getting nowhere.

Mr Wheway: Mr Butler did not mean what he said.

A Second Mortgage

Mr J. Payne suggested that the directors take a second mortgage on the ground of £1,000, which would mean £2,400 mortgage on the ground, that would leave £700 as security.

Mr Thomas: You are increasing the responsibilities of the present directors. Have you thought of that?

Mr J. Payne: I believe you will make £500 on the Combination and you are covered.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Mr Wheway: Suppose they foreclose where do the directors stand who are responsible for £500?

If you had a second mortgage, it would release you from the £500...

Rhyl Athletic v Nuneaton Town 02-04-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Poole and Higham; Woodhall, Dowsey and Wannacott; Kent, Tromans, Roberts, Laycock and Ball.

Nuneaton made the journey to Rhyl for a Thursday afternoon Birmingham League fixture.

Rhyl were in lively form, and had it not been for the good work of Richardson in goal, the home side's victory would have been more decisive. Although they had most of the play and missed several chances, Rhyl found Nuneaton plucky opponents, who contested every inch of the game.

Rhyl's only success in the first half came after 20 minutes when Stewart netted following an astute move by McIlrough.

Rhyl were still the more aggressive side after the interval and McIlrough failed to add to their score from a penalty. After 10 minutes of the second half Laycock levelled the scores for Nuneaton. After Wilkes had saved cleverly from Roberts, McIlrough took advantage of an opening created by Stewart and smartly netted.

It was not long, however, before Wannacott made the scores level again from a penalty, but within a minute Stewart scored a glorious winning goal for Rhyl.

Nuneaton were best served by their defence. Richardson, in goal, saved several difficult situations. The backs were steady in their work, but Dowsey did not have a good match, allowing Stewart far too much latitude. Eales and Albrighton did good service among the forwards.

Hednesford Town v Nuneaton Town 04-04-1936

Hednesford: T. Webster; Groves and Smith; Powell, Blunt and Galley; Addis, Terry, Jackson, Fereday and Thacker.

Nuneaton: Tipton; Brown and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Wannacott; Tebbutt, Tromans, Roberts, Laycock and Bott.

Nuneaton journeyed to The Cross Keys to take on Hednesford Town in a Birmingham League fixture.

Despite the fact that they had the wind and slope against them and that the home team had a greater share of play in the first half, Nuneaton were leading by two goals to one at half-time. Hednesford did practically all the attacking in the first few minutes, and after the game had been in progress 12 minutes, they took the lead. Addis put in a hard shot which Tipton managed to save, but without being able to clear and Fereday headed into the net.

Three minutes later the visitors equalised through Tromans, who found the net after receiving a pass from Laycock. It was a neat goal and put great heart into the visitors, who kept up the pressure and scored again two minutes later, through Roberts

who put in a clever shot, just inside the post. Hednesford retaliated strongly after this rather unexpected set-back and Nuneaton had all their work cut out to maintain their lead during the remainder of the half. The visitors' defence held out well and Nuneaton went close on a couple of occasions.

The second half was even more interesting than the first, and during the first 20 minutes both goals had narrow escapes. On one occasion Hednesford swarmed round their opponents' goal and Thacker headed against the post. Nuneaton broke away, and 22 minutes after the break, increased their lead through Wannacott, whose first shot was saved, but who succeeded at the second attempt, scoring from near the post.

With ten minutes to go Hednesford reduced the margin with a shot by Powell. Three minutes later, from a move on the Nuneaton left, Wannacott, with an easy opening, threaded himself through and easily beat the home goalkeeper, to restore Nuneaton's two goal lead. Just on time Thacker headed a goal for the home team.

Nuneaton Town v Colwyn Bay United 06-04-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Brown and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Poole; Tebbutt, Tromans, Roberts, Laycock and Ball.

Nuneaton welcomed Colwyn Bay United to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. The visitors were an hour late in arriving and started the game four men short.

During the opening period Nuneaton pressed strongly around the Colwyn goal, and Roberts scored three times.

The visitors gave an improved display in the second half, but had little luck in marksmanship, most of their shots being charged down.

Owencroft was a skilful leader and J. Jones a clever outside-left, but the Nuneaton defence were a capable lot. Dowsey at centre-half, gave a strong display.

Hughes the visiting goalkeeper made some good saves during busy spells. Nuneaton showed more thrust in attack, and their finishing and marksmanship showed improvements.

Chief honours went to Roberts, a junior from Arley Colliery, who showed rare dash and opportunism. Tebbitt and Hall, the extreme wingers, showed up well in fast runs and Tromans was a dashing inside-left. Nuneaton's display was a big advance on recent home games.

Nuneaton Town v Oakengates Town 11-04-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Brown and Symonds; Woodhall, Dowsey and Wannacott; Tebbutt, Tromans, Roberts, Laycock and Bott.

Oakengates: Goodchild; Parr and Evans; Rogers, Elkes and Butler; F. Bullock, Pearce, Shakeshaft, S. Bullock and Garbett.

Nuneaton welcomed Oakengates Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture. Weather conditions were far from ideal and the match started in heavy rain.



Play for the first 20 minutes was mainly in favour of Nuneaton, who took the lead at the end of that time with a penalty goal for handball against Elkes. Wannacott scoring from the spot with a good shot. After this success, Nuneaton swarmed round their opponents' goal for a time, and did everything but score. Roberts was applauded for a dashing effort from a long pass by Woodhall, which the centre-forward put just wide.

The remainder of the first half was rather devoid of interest, neither side being impressive in attack during this period. There was a great deal of midfield play, but the dullness of the game was relieved somewhat when Roberts accepted a pass by Tebbutt and narrowly missed with a good effort.

The second half had only been in progress five minutes when Nuneaton increased their lead. Laycock sent Roberts away and the latter, with a clear field made speedy tracks for goal. Goodchild, the visitors' keeper, came out but Roberts put the ball past him and into the net. Two minutes later, after Nuneaton had maintained the offensive, Bott put the home side further ahead with a fine shot from a rather awkward angle into the corner of the net. Oakengates were kept hemmed in for some time, and on one occasion a fierce melee took place outside their goal. Some good work was put in by Tebbutt, who finished with a good shooting effort following a speedy run.

Soon after, the same player brought Goodchild to his knees with a smart volley, and a few moments later made a fine run, from which he had hard lines in not scoring. Bott and Laycock were also in the picture, while headers by Wannacott and Tromans had to be dealt with by Goodchild. Seven minutes before time, Roberts scored Nuneaton's fourth and last goal from a pass by Wood.

Nuneaton Town v Wrexham Reserves 13-04-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Brown and Symonds; Woodhall, Dowsey and Wannacott; Tebbutt, Tromans, Roberts, Laycock and Bott.

Wrexham: Jones; Bulling and Evans; Jackson, Charles and Roberts; Ellis, Postin, McCartney, Thomas and Williams.

Nuneaton welcomed Wrexham to Manor Park on Easter Monday for a Birmingham Combination match. There was an attendance of around 1,500.

Although the visiting forwards played quick and skilful football, the Nuneaton defenders were more than a match for them, while the home forwards were in real scoring mood, and great work was done by Tromans, Roberts and Tebbutt.

Nuneaton took the lead after seven minutes, Tebbutt got through and centred. The ball hit the goalkeeper, and from the rebound Tromans put through. The visitors' goal had a narrow escape shortly after, when Jones had to save on the ground from Tebbutt. Three minutes after Nuneaton's goal, Wrexham equalised. Following a move on the right, Thomas had a perfect shooting opportunity, with which he made no mistake.

The visitors had matters their own way for a while, but there was one exciting home attack, in which Tromans played a

prominent part. Bott sent over with a free-kick and then Roberts, following a dash, tested the keeper with a fast volley. Tebbutt centred and Bott, with a good chance, delayed his shot and Jones came out to smother. After pressing for about ten minutes, Nuneaton took the lead again, Tromans netting from a centre by Tebbutt. This goal came after 38 minutes. A minute or two before the interval from a centre by Tebbutt, Laycock scored a neat goal, the ball hitting the underside of the bar before going in.

Fifteen minutes after the interval, Nuneaton went further ahead. Jones saved from Bott, but without getting the ball away and Roberts scored with a stinging shot. Nuneaton continued to press, and with ten minutes to go scored again, Tromans heading into the net from a corner kick by Tebbutt. Three minutes before the close, Wrexham made a breakaway and McCartney reduced the lead with an easy chance.

Nuneaton Town v Shrewsbury Reserves 14-04-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Brown and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Tromans, Roberts, Laycock and Bott.

Shrewsbury: Parkinson; Ramsey and Holmes; Bates, Matthews and Wheeler; Jeavons, Sharpe, Hewitson, Wyness and Hopley.

Nuneaton welcomed Shrewsbury to Manor Park on Tuesday for a Birmingham League fixture. Nuneaton were weakened by the loss of Wannacott, who had reportedly been loaned to Kidderminster Harriers.

Nuneaton had the greater share of the game during the first 20 minutes, and shots were put in by Roberts and Bott. During the remainder of the first half both sides had their share of attacking, and just on half-time Shrewsbury set up a strong attack from which Hopley scored at fairly close range.

Nuneaton were kept hemmed in for a lengthy period after the interval, but eventually broke away and equalised after 20 minutes, Roberts netting with a great shot.

After this Nuneaton livened up, and the Shrewsbury keeper, Parkinson, was kept busy. Both sets of defenders had anxious moments during the next few minutes. With two minutes to go Shrewsbury attacked on the left, and the ball was put across by Wyness, and was returned from the right for Hewitson to score.

Nuneaton were unlucky to lose on the run of play, and Richardson was at fault with one of the goals. Dowsey was as solid as ever. Roberts and Tebbutt were the pick of the front line, but Bott was not up to his usual form. Both sets of attackers were erratic in their shooting at times.

Bank Refuse Second Mortgage Directors To Apply For Smaller Amount

At a meeting of the directors and shareholders of the Nuneaton Town Football Club, held at the Cock and Bear Inn, on Wednesday evening, it was reported that the Club's application for a second mortgage of £1,000 had been refused

by the bank, but that the bank was willing to give careful consideration for any alternative propositions put forward. After a length discussion it was decided that the directors should endeavour to obtain a second mortgage of £500, and that in the event of them being unable to find ways and means of carrying on, a further meeting be called as soon as possible after the end of the season.

Ground Offer Refused

Alderman F. P. Pelmbleton, Chairman of the Directors, presided, and explained that at a meeting a fortnight previously a resolution was passed that two directors approach the bank with a view to obtaining a second mortgage on the ground for £1,000, failing that, other sources be interviewed, and to report at the meeting that evening. The resolution had been carried out so far as the bank was concerned, but owing to the holidays they had not got a reply until Monday morning. They had got into negotiation with the firm referred to at the last meeting, and had received a definite reply that they were not prepared to buy the ground.

It had been suggested by the directors that they negotiate with the same people for a second mortgage. His own feeling was that if they could get a second mortgage, even if they had to go as low as £500, they would be able to reduce the overdraft at the bank by £300. With the remaining £200, plus money coming in from various efforts and the small balance at the bank from the Appeal Fund, they would be able to settle up with the players and pay off something on the more important accounts. If they would do this they would be able to carry on next season when it was hoped to get into the Birmingham Combination, and then with a sixpenny gate and a little advertising energy they might be able to get going again.

Holiday Gate Receipts

It had been worked out that they wanted £120 to see them through to the end of the season. The net gates during the holiday were: Oakengates (Saturday), £19 19s. 3d.; Wrexham (Monday), £42 18s. 10d.; Shrewsbury (Tuesday), £44 15s. 1d. Total £108 4s. 2d. Out of this they had to pay Shrewsbury £23 13s. 3d. as their share of the gate plus their expenses, and this left a balance of £84 10s. 11d. This was £35 9s. 1d. less than the estimated amount required to pay off their expenses from the last meeting to the end of the season without incurring any further debt.

Absent Director Criticised

Mr B. Watkins asked if there were any apologies from the directors not present that evening, and the reply was that the only apology was from Mr Wheway.

Mr Watkins said he did not think it right that directors of a limited company should be absent at that meeting.

The Chairman: There are five out of eight present.

Mr Watkins remarked that according to the articles of

the Association a director who missed three consecutive meetings automatically resigned unless there was an apology. He was referring to Mr Deans.

The Chairman replied that the reason they had excused Mr Deans was that this director had been persuaded to take over the chairmanship of the Nuneaton Carnival Committee, and it happened that the Football Club meetings clashed with those of the Carnival.

Mr T. Ford: Is it policy to ask for the resignation of any director at the present time?

The Chairman pointed out that another difficulty was that the directors had signed at the bank, and it was therefore very difficult to dismiss a man from the Board.

Mr Watkins: It does not dismiss a man of his responsibilities.

The Chairman: I am aware of that.

Question Of Security

Mr J. Payne said he noticed that the letter from the bank did not turn down what the directors had asked for. The bank said it was prepared to consider any proposition. He had never suggested that the bank let the company have a second mortgage of £1,000. What he proposed was that the directors took a second mortgage of £1,000, stood for this mortgage, and deposited the second mortgage at the bank to get the money. The bank required the directors to stand guarantee for £500 without any security, and he suggested that it was far better to stand guarantee for £1,000 with security than £500 without any security at all.

Mr J. Stanley: The bank does not think it is a security.

Mr Payne replied that it was not for the bank to think that. It was stated at the last meeting that the ground was worth £3,500. There was only a mortgage of £1,400 on it, and this was being reduced by £100 each year. The security would be growing every season. It would be safer for the directors, the shareholders and the Football Association.

Mr J. Stanley: In other words we have got to spring another £500.

The Chairman remarked that they would have to sign at the bank for another £500, and take over a mortgage for £1,000.

Mr Ford pointed out that each director came up for election every three years. If the directors were relieved of their duties there would still be the second mortgage.

Must Have Winning Side

Mr B. Carris said there was a profit shown on the balance sheet of £220 at the conclusion of the Club's first year in the Birmingham League.

The Chairman replied that £250 was obtained for the transfer of Dewis. The trouble had been the falling off of gate money.

Mr Carris remarked that they had got to have a winning side that would thrash any opposition to do any good.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Mr Carris later asked if the directors had looked for local players, and the Chairman replied that they had been attending matches and watching boys.

Mr T. Ellis said there had been several cases of young players being willing to play for the first team, but would not play for the Reserves.

No New Club In Opposition

Mr F. Payne said that while the present Club was running there would be no other club started by him in opposition. His support was for that Club, always had been and always would be.

Mr Watkins associated himself with these remarks, and added that in the event of the club going out of existence there would be another one prepared to start.

In reply to Mr Watkins, it was stated that no professionals had been signed on for next season.

Mr Carris: If you get in the Combination are you going to run purely an amateur side?

The Chairman: No.

Mr Ford said the directors would do their very best to persuade suitable players to promise to play for the Club next season, even if they did not wish to sign them on at present.

On the suggestion of the Chairman it was finally decided that the directors should do all they possibly could to get a second mortgage of £500 which would enable the club to carry on to next season, and that failing that the secretary be instructed to call another meeting of directors and shareholders.

Dudley Town v Nuneaton Town 18-04-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Poole and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Tromans, Roberts, Laycock and Blessed.

Nuneaton made the journey to Dudley Town for a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton lost their game at Dudley on Wednesday by three clear goals. Thus in their four holiday games they have secured four points out of a possible eight.

After the strenuous holiday programme of both teams it was not surprising that the game should have been so devoid of incident. The players were obviously leg-weary and there was very little excitement.

Dudley were the better of two distinctly moderate sides and deserved their success. Nuneaton seldom looked like scoring and for the most part were defending their goal.

Gould opened Dudley's account after 35 minutes, this being the only goal of the first half. After 63 minutes Hawkes put Dudley further ahead and two minutes from the end, Gould scored the third and final goal.

Cradley Heath v Nuneaton Town 21-04-1936

Cradley: Shuck; Clancey and Bridgwater; Timmington, Caddick and Crompton; Hooper, Neather, Pugh, Gunn and Ball.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Brown and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Reynolds, Roberts, Laycock and Bott.

Nuneaton made the journey to Cradley Heath for a Birmingham League fixture. The visitors were without Tromans who was out with a foot injury. His place was taken by Reynolds.

Nuneaton more than held their own during the first 15 minutes with Roberts and Woodhall shooting over in quick succession. Cradley scored what proved to be the winning goal at the end of this period. Pugh, their new centre-forward, receiving from the left and scoring with a good shot. It was a goal against the run of play. Cradley redoubled their efforts after this success, and Richardson saved twice in quick succession. Good work by Hudson relieved the pressure, but Town were unable to make progress against the stout Cradley defence.

Eventually Tebbutt and Roberts figured in a Nuneaton raid from which Reynolds tested the goalkeeper, and then Woodhall sent wide. Nuneaton continued to have a good share of the play, and Tebbutt got in a good centre, but Roberts had too many opponents to get a shot in. Both defences had plenty of work to do during the closing stages of the first half. Roberts lost a good scoring chance through delaying his shot. Although Laycock got in some good passes, the visitors were unable to score, and when a goal seemed likely, Bott was given offside.

Play during the second half was even less interesting and was of a ding-dong character. Neither side looked much like scoring, and although Cradley now got the ball more than their opponents, they were indifferent in finishing. On one occasion, however – and this was about the only few exciting moment during the second half – Richardson saved three times in succession.

Cradley failed in their finishing, and although they had two corners in succession they could not profit from them. Nuneaton missed another good chance when Tebbutt got through and centred for Roberts, who let the ball go by while close in on goal. The visitors failed with a free-kick just outside the penalty area.

Hereford United v Nuneaton Town 23-04-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Poole and Brown; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Ford, Tromans, Roberts, Laycock and Blessed.

Nuneaton's visit to Hereford yesterday afternoon resulted in a three clear goals defeat.

Hereford, who have been doing well of late, were much the better side and won deservedly.

The visitors, for the most part, were defending their goal, and had comparatively few scoring chances in consequence.

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Hereford obtained their first goal inside a quarter of an hour, Mardon accepting a fine opening made by Richardson to go through and score.

The home side got two further goals without a reply in the second half. Early on Burgess increased United's lead and towards the end he added a third.

Nuneaton Town v Aston Villa A 25-04-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Brown and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Kent, Roberts, Laycock and Bott.

Aston Villa A: Wakeman; Robey and Cobley; Young, Pritty and Simpson; Kerr, Smith, Maddocks, Wilkes and Jones.

Nuneaton welcomed Aston Villa A to Manor Park for the semi-final of the Leamington Hospital Cup.

Town had things practically all their own way during the first half, and the Villa were kept on the defensive for long periods. The home attack showed up well, and Roberts and Tebbutt gave good displays, while Laycock showed great cleverness in his passing. The game was too one-sided to be really interesting and Town's ultimate victory was never really in doubt. Villa attacked at the start, but made very little impression on the home defence, and it was not long before Nuneaton took up the offensive and Laycock put in some neat passing. Kent shot wide from a corner.

Wakeman had to save from a dangerous shot by Tebbutt. This was followed by a strong home raid started by Laycock, and Tebbutt centred for Roberts to test the goalkeeper. The visitors made a breakaway, and Jones had a chance of scoring, but sent across the mouth of the net with a hard volley. Wilkes, then had a shot and Richardson made a good save.

After this effort the Villa did not get a look-in for some time and Town might have scored had they been a little more accurate. Wakeman saved a header from Roberts, after which Kent missed a chance by shooting wide from Tebbutt's centre. Town won a free-kick for handball just outside the penalty area and Woodhall, who took the kick, brought Wakeman down but he just managed to save. The game continued to be in favour of Nuneaton, and midway through the half, Cobley met with an injury after colliding with Bott.

Town's efforts were rewarded five minutes before the interval. Following a quick movement Roberts put the ball out to Tebbutt, who centred well for Laycock to score a neat goal. The remaining five minutes of the half produced the most exciting football of the game. There was a thrilling scramble in front of the Villa goal, and Nuneaton had three corners in quick succession. A minute before the interval they scored through Tebbutt, who lifted the ball nicely towards goal, and Wakeman helped the ball into the net in attempting to save.

The second half was very dull and football not so good as that of the first half, although the home forwards maintained fairly good form. Weather conditions had a great deal to do with the deterioration of the game, for heavy rain swept the

ground and made conditions bad for the players. Nuneaton, however, made some useful attacks and the Villa were completely outplayed. Tebbutt might have scored for the Town had the ball not been so slippery.

Cheltenham Town v Nuneaton Town 28-04-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Eales and Hudson; Ashall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Tromans, Roberts, Woodhall and Knight.

Despite the fact that Cheltenham fielded their full Southern League side, they could only beat Nuneaton 2-1 at Leamington last night in the final of the Leamington Cup.

Nuneaton gave a good display and were unlucky to be beaten by a goal about which there was some doubt.

Tromans gave Nuneaton the lead after 20 minutes' play, but five minutes before half-time Lacey levelled the scores. Cheltenham's winning goal was scored by Summers

Brierley Hill Alliance v Nuneaton Town 02-05-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Brown and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Tromans, Roberts, Laycock and Bott.

Brierley Hill: Corbett; Smart and Follis; Lambeth, Short and Tate; Bradley, Ball, Handley, Singleton and Scriven.

Nuneaton made the journey to Brierley Hill Alliance for a Birmingham League match. There was an attendance of over 3,500 spectators.

Nuneaton were first to attack and Roberts and Tebbutt were in the picture, but the Alliance soon turned the tables and Richardson nearly fumbled the ball when tested by Handley. The Town goal had another narrow escape immediately after, and when it looked as if the Alliance were going to score, Brown just managed to kick away from near the posts.

The home team were not to be denied, however, and Scriven scored with a splendid drive from good range after the game had been in progress ten minutes. This was all the scoring up to the interval, and although Brierley Hill were perhaps a shade the better side for the remainder of the half, Nuneaton shaped up well and initiated some dangerous moves. After Tromans had tested Corbett with a good volley, Roberts got through and came very near to scoring. He put the ball past the goalkeeper, but it rolled just wide.

Tromans was very active in the Nuneaton attack and led one or two promising raids. During the latter stages of the first half Brierley got the upper hand and kept the visiting defence very busy, and just before the interval Richardson stopped a terrific drive by Tate. Eventually the Alliance had a free-kick near the Nuneaton penalty area from which they scored, but were given offside.

Handley missed an open goal at the start of the second half, following a centre by Lambert. Nuneaton equalised 13 minutes after the interval when Laycock put the ball out and Bott received, partly cut in, steadied himself, and scored with



a fine shot from good range, the ball going into the far corner of the net. Heartened by this success the Town kept the upper hand for a time, Roberts being a great trier, while clever work was put in by Laycock and Bott, and for a while it looked as if the visitors had an excellent chance of winning.

However, play was transferred, and Richardson brought off a brilliant save from Handley at close range. Although they fought gamely, Nuneaton could not prevent the home side from scoring what proved to be the winning goal. This came 33 minutes after the interval, when from a pass by Handley, Bradley cut in very sharply and scored with a rattling shot. After the match, the Keys Cup, the trophy awarded to the runners-up in the Birmingham League, was presented to the Alliance by Major Keys.

A special word of praise must be given to the Nuneaton defence; Hudson, Dowsey and Woodhall being outstanding. It was a busy afternoon for the visiting defence, but time and again they repelled the efforts of the home forwards and rarely made a mistake. Richardson in goal made some excellent saves.

It was generally thought that against such strong opponents the "Nuns" would return home well beaten, but the Alliance only won by two goals to one and even so their victory flattered them, for the Town thoroughly deserved to share the points.

Birmingham & District League Final Table 1935-1936

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wellington Town	38	29	3	6	129	37	61
Brierley Hill Alliance	38	28	2	8	128	70	58
Shrewsbury Town	38	26	1	11	124	70	53
Kidderminster Harriers	38	24	5	9	104	66	53
Worcester City	38	19	11	8	104	68	49
Cardiff City	38	21	5	12	102	69	47
Wrexham Reserves	38	19	5	14	92	77	43
Dudley Town	38	17	7	14	91	72	41
Hednesford Town	38	17	4	17	80	82	38
Hereford United	38	15	4	19	77	81	34
Stafford Rangers	38	15	4	19	84	90	34
Bangor City	38	15	4	19	83	97	34
Stourbridge	38	15	3	20	110	111	33
Rhyl Athletic	38	10	11	17	80	81	31
Oswestry Town	38	13	5	20	71	97	31
Nuneaton Town	38	14	2	22	66	84	30
Cradley Heath	38	9	9	20	69	114	27
Oakengates Town	38	10	5	23	73	115	25
Cannock Town	38	8	4	26	56	101	20
Colwyn Bay United	38	6	6	26	52	133	18

Tromans Leaving District

Supporters of Nuneaton Town FC will be sorry to hear that Roy Tromans, the young Nuneaton Town forward, will be unable to play for them next season, as he is leaving the town to take up an appointment on the staff of the St. Austell and District Lighting and Power Co., Cornwall.

Tromans, who has done so much to help to pull the Town team through a very difficult season, was inside-left for Halesowen Town for two seasons and came to Nuneaton in December, 1934, when he appeared in the reserve team.

In the first team this season he found his form and is second in the list of goalscorers with eleven goals to his credit.

Will Nuneaton Have An Amateur Club Next Season?

Will Nuneaton have a first-class amateur club in the Central Amateur Football League next season? This is the latest suggestion to reviving interest in Association Football in the town, and a meeting is to be held at the Newdegate Arms Hotel on Friday evening to which all interested persons are invited to attend.

The notice convening the meeting states: "It is desirous that such an important Borough as Nuneaton should be represented in high class amateur football and, therefore, it is suggested that the Central Amateur Football League might be considered for membership therein for season 1936-37. This League represents the senior amateur clubs in the Midlands, and such clubs nearby are: Coventry Morris Motors, Badsey Rangers (Evesham), Leicestershire Nomads, Northampton Nomads, Northampton Mount Pleasant, Ibstock Penistone Rovers, RAF Cranwell, Coalville Town, etc."

Amateur Club For Nuneaton?

Committee Formed To Discuss Question

"I have come to Nuneaton, which has its tradition of sportsmanship in more ways than one, to see whether we cannot run an amateur club in Nuneaton. I see no reason why we should not do so."

So declared Mr T. Crew, of Leicester, hon. secretary of the Central Amateur League, speaking at a meeting held at the Newdegate Arms Hotel, on Friday evening, to discuss the question of forming an amateur football club at Nuneaton to take part in the Central League. Mr H. Watkins, a former chairman of Nuneaton Town FC, presided over a moderate attendance of interested persons, and was supported by Mr E. K. Brown and Mr E. E. Roberts.

The Chairman remarked that apologies had been received from several school teachers who were unable to attend, but

who were willing to support the club if it was formed. Those present were there to consider the possibilities of such a club. Introducing the speaker, Mr Watkins mentioned that Mr Crew was well known on the field of play and refereed the 1929-30 Cup Final.

Mr Crew said he had been associated with all types of football, particularly with professional football during the last few years, but the time had come when he had decided to retire. Professional football all over the country had advanced by leaps and bounds and had a grip on the public which no other sport had. There had been more intensive management of professional football and more intensive football.

The Central Amateur League

Senior amateur football, had advanced pretty well all over the country alongside professional football, and had been of a high standing in London and North England, so he had felt, with one or two others, that amateur football, particularly in the Midlands, should be raised to a higher standard by bringing together the better-class clubs in the Midlands. The Central Amateur League was formed last season by eight clubs, and as a result of this combination every club improved its standard of play tremendously. Northampton Mount Pleasant were the champions of the League, which they won deservedly by a high standard of play. Several of the clubs had considerably improved, and Leicestershire Nomads, with which club he was associated, had made great strides during the past season, and as a result they had been able to beat clubs down South because of their better tactics.

Growing Interest In Amateur Football

He was there that evening as a recruiter to get amateur clubs in the main Midland towns to combine, because a growing interest was being shown by the public in better class amateur football. They did not make any profits out of football and he felt that just as professional football had advanced, so today amateur football must advance on organised lines with intensive management. He had found it surprising how many people would like to see amateur football as displayed in the Central Amateur League, and he was out to do anything he could to put the Midlands on the map. Hitherto they had been simply scattered about in a parochial kind of way.

He had come to Nuneaton, which had its traditions of sportsmanship in more way than one, to see whether they could not run an amateur club in Nuneaton. He saw no reason why they should not do so, because every junior footballer had a natural ambition to play in a better club, and if he played in a better club his play consequently improved.

Twelve Clubs

To run a good class amateur club today it had got to be done on business lines. It had been decided that the League should consist of twelve clubs next season, and that the radius should be limited. During the first season the League

radius had been too wide. The League next season would include the following clubs: Badsey Rangers (Evesham), Coventry Morris Motors, Ibstock Penistone Rovers, Leicester Nomads, Royal Air Force (Cranwell), Northampton Nomads, Coalville Town and Loughborough College. It was also fairly certain that Rugby and Moor Green would be members of the League next season. The total cost at the beginning would be £2 12s. 6d. They were very fortunate to be able to play invitation matches every September. The League, of course, was concerned chiefly with sport and the question of gates was a matter of local consideration. Next Easter there would be a Continental tour of a team picked from the best players in the League, and they would also play the pick of the Welsh amateurs. They were trying to put the Central Amateur League on the map. He hoped they would give the question of forming a club at Nuneaton serious consideration. He thanked Mr. Brown (convener of the meeting) for his sportsmanship and interest.

Local Club In A Bad Way

Mr E. K. Brown then addressed the meeting, and said football, in terms of sport, was in a very bad way in Nuneaton, and yet interest in Soccer was never greater amongst local people. Whoever one spoke to had his particular favourites, and yet they would not support football, so it was said, in Nuneaton. The interest was there, but it had got to be aroused. He did not pretend that an amateur club would do this, or would work any other miracle, but he maintained that such a club might help to restore amateur football to a position of eminence. To his mind an enthusiast liked to see a hard fought, interesting game. He liked, perhaps, also to see a personality among the players whose mannerisms interested him. What killed was stagnation. One must move with the times and avoid drabness – drab methods of play, colours, grounds and programmes. A good amateur club in Nuneaton would supply the need for good, clean, hard fought games. If such a club was formed the matches would be played on alternate Saturdays to the Town Club.

Chance For Local Players

He thought the Nuneatonian would prefer to see his own side if it served up good football. It would also give local players a chance to represent the town – a chance they had not had very frequently during the last few years. There were a good many youngsters who would jump at the chance of representing Nuneaton. He also believed that an amateur club would help the senior club. An attempt was made to establish cordial relations with the Town Club. He understood that Alderman Pembleton would be present at that meeting, but he was not present and had sent no apology. He thought it showed signs of a lack of interest on the part of the board of Directors. They had not sent one representative to the meeting.

There was no doubt that if such a club came into being valuable work would be done in the schools. If the club was formed one of his first wishes would be that each week the

club should send out tickets to a hundred boys, the various schools being taken in rota. It might be a valuable outlet for enthusiasm which was at present bottled up.

High Standard Of Play

Mr D. E. Roberts said he had refereed many Central League games and found the standard of play very high for the age of the players. He felt sure that the formation of an amateur club in Nuneaton would be what people were waiting for, the football and not the finance.

In reply to a question by Mr Fred Payne, the well-known Nuneaton sportsman, Mr Crew said it had been decided that the League should consist of twelve clubs, although this number could be increased if the clubs thought it necessary. Mr Payne said he was all out for an amateur side, but he was president of the Nuneaton Combination League, which was an amateur league, and he did not want to smash Nuneaton amateur football. He had been endeavouring to raise the standard of play in the League, but without much success. He thought it was time something was done to raise the standard of amateur football in Nuneaton. He did not know what was going to happen to the Nuneaton Town Club, but if the new club was formed he saw no real obstacle against them having the Manor Park ground on alternate Saturdays.

Question Of Ground

With regard to the question of a ground the chairman stated that several directors of Nuneaton Town FC were in agreement with the scheme and were willing to consider the question of an amateur club using the ground when the Town club was playing away from home.

Mr Brown said that a pitch at Weddington had been offered on the cricket ground and he did not think there would be any trouble as far as a ground went.

After the matter had been discussed at further length it was decided that the whole of these present be elected en bloc as a provisional committee, with power to co-opt, to go into the matter. Mr E. K. Brown was elected secretary and Mr H. Watkins treasurer.

Town's Future Still Undecided

Present Directorate Will Not Let Club Down

The future of Nuneaton Town Football Club is still in the balance! The directors are in urgent need of £200 to tide the Club over until the beginning of next season, and although the question was discussed at considerable length at an extraordinary meeting of directors and shareholders held at the Cock and Bear Inn, on Monday evening, no definite decision was arrived at. Two suggestions were put forward – that the directorate should be increased or that the Manor Park ground should be sold.

Alderman F. P. Pembleton, Chairman of the Directors, presided over a moderate attendance of directors and shareholders.

Second Mortgage Refused

The Chairman said that at the last extraordinary meeting the directors gave an undertaking that if they were not successful in getting a second mortgage they would call another extraordinary meeting, and if successful they would carry on until the annual general meeting early in July. The directors had done all they possibly could, but he regretted to have to report that they had been unable to get a second mortgage. There had been several suggestions put forward. One was that the directorate should be increased. He would like them to consider that suggestion. Another suggestion was that some gentlemen should come forward and buy the ground at a reasonable price, and let it to the club at a rental for football. The agreement would, of course, stipulate that the ground must be kept for football. There were good prospects that the club would get into the Birmingham Combination next season, but they would not know definitely until after June 11.

The Chairman then called on the secretary to give some information regarding the Club's position, but pointed that the figures were not official as the books had not yet been audited.

Gate Receipts Down By £1,500

The secretary, Mr F. J. Perry, stated that the members of the Finance Committee went through the accounts three days after the football season had finished. As far as the balance sheet was concerned the capital and mortgage stood the same. They estimated the loss roughly at £714. The whole of the expenditure had been reduced. Gate receipts had gone down roughly by £1,500.

Ben Wannacott

Reference was made at this point to Ben Wannacott, who played for Nuneaton Town during the past two seasons, and who it was reported had signed on for Kidderminster.

Mr T. Ellis remarked that he had seen Wannacott that day and he had told him that he had not signed for any club.

A form was produced showing that Wannacott had signed for Kidderminster.

The Chairman said he thought that Wannacott was under a misapprehension, and did not know that he had signed for the Harriers.

A Little More Capital Needed

The Chairman said they very much regretted the result of the past season, but the very worst luck had pursued them all through the season. As regards the future of the club a little more capital was needed to enable them to pay off the players. Up to Christmas the players received, on average, half their wages, sometimes a little less. If only they could get sufficient capital to carry on to the beginning of next season, he thought the dark clouds would begin to clear and with very careful management, he thought they would be able to carry on next season in the Birmingham Combination, providing they got



in. The point was how were they going to raise this money? If they increased the directorate, the new directors would be able to sign at the bank or do anything else they could to help the finances. As they knew the present directors had already made themselves liable at the bank for £500. The bank was not pressing and was perfectly satisfied with the security. That was the only suggestion he could make. At any rate, one director had already informed them that when he retired at the annual meeting he would not seek re-election. Then Mr Deans did not seem very desirous of carrying on, and if he decided to resign it would create two vacancies.

A Tester

Mr J. Sankey: Have you got any gentlemen in view who will come on the Board of Directors?

The Chairman: I have put it out as a tester to see if there are any gentlemen prepared to come forward and offer themselves for the directorate.

The Chairman remarked that he had an invitation to attend a meeting for the purpose of forming an amateur club, but did not go.

In reply to Mr J. Sankey, the secretary said that if they could get £200 they would save money.

Mr F. Payne: It appears to me that this meeting need not have been called.

Alderman Pembleton: We made you a promise, and as long as I am Chairman of the Directors, when I make a promise I shall fulfil it. If you remember, Mr Payne, I think it was on your suggestion that we decided that if we could raise a second mortgage and carry on we would not have another meeting until the annual meeting, but if we were unable to carry on we would have another meeting.

Mr Payne replied that what he was going to say was that there we no need to call a meeting until they knew their position next season. If the meeting had been left until they knew whether they were going to get in the Combination or not, they would have known what League they were going to be in, and then he thought they would have been able to find the money.

Mr G. Wheway: The main thing is that we want some money to get on with at the present time, to pay the players and other necessary items that must be paid before we can carry on, and it would not do to get on to the annual general meeting before it is done.

Mr Payne: Is anyone pressing the Club for money?

Mr Wheway: Practically.

Mr Wheway added that if they could get £150 immediately it would be worth £200 to them easily. He was not exaggerating when he said that.

The Appeal Fund

Mr Sankey: Has all the Appeal Fund been used up?

The Secretary: Practically all of it.

Mr Sankey: I understand that the Appeal Fund was not going to be used until it was closed.

The Chairman: I wish we could have done that.

The Chairman: If we appoint two new directors who are willing to sign for a reasonable amount at the bank it will be a great help. Otherwise there is only one alternative, and that is to sell the ground.

Mr Wheway: There is one other alternative, and that is for the directors to resign en bloc.

The Chairman: The directors will be perfectly willing to resign and give up their responsibilities if any gentleman will come forward and take over all the liabilities of the Club.

Mr Wheway: You cannot expect any gentleman to come forward and do that.

Mr T. Ellis: It is not reasonable.

Mr Saunders: I think an appeal ought to be made to pay the players in full if it is at all possible. I should like to hear some further suggestions. Surely you have not closed up every avenue.

Mr W. Ford: Unless we can get £200 quickly the only alternative is to sell the ground.

Resolution Falls Through

Mr Ford then moved a resolution that the directorate be increased to fifteen, six more than at present, the only condition being that the new directors stood the same as the present directors were standing at the bank.

The Chairman: If six new directors came along and were willing to sign at the bank for the same as we have done, it would produce £330.

Mr Wheway seconded the resolution.

Mr Payne move an amendment that the increase be reduced to five.

Mr H. Watkins, seconding, remarked that he thought this was quite sufficient for a limited company.

Five voted for the proposition and four for the amendment.

The secretary pointed out that as the whole of those present were not in agreement, according to the rules they were not able to do anything. Therefore, the resolution fell through.

Practically Sacked

Mr Wheway remarked that for the benefit of the management of the Club the directorate should be five, but for the finance of the Club at the present time it should be fifteen.

“We are practically sacked,” declared Mr Wheway. “We might as well speak our minds.”

Mr Ford said they were just where they started, and the only alternative appeared to be to sell the ground. The directors would make the best possible terms for the benefit of the football club at the present time and for the future. The directors had the power to sell or buy in the interests of the Club.



Mr Payne: Have you thought that Nuneaton Borough Council might take over the ground in the interests of football in Nuneaton?

The Chairman: I do not think they have any power to do so.

Mr Ford asked if it was possible for the Council to buy the ground as an open space.

The secretary remarked that he thought the Dudley ground belonged to the Corporation.

The Chairman: If there is nothing more we shall have to close the meeting, and leave it to the directors to do the best they can.

Reference to Proposed Amateur Club

Just before the close of the meeting, the proposed club was again referred to, and the Chairman said he knew nothing of the directors deciding to let the ground to an amateur club if it materialised. One or two of the directors had discussed it among themselves, but as far as they went was to agree that if an amateur club was formed and wanted the ground on alternate Saturdays they would be prepared to negotiate with them.

In bringing the meeting to a close, the Chairman said: The future of the Club is receiving the very serious consideration of the directorate. We have quite made up our minds that our expenditure will be nothing like it has been in previous years. I should like to say the present directorate will not let the Club down.

Birmingham Combination Application Refused

Nuneaton Town's bid to join the Birmingham Combination was rejected when they came third with just nine votes, losing out to Birmingham A (18) and Bournville (12). Bath City were fourth with just two votes.

A proposal by Tamworth that the number of clubs be increased to 21 was turned down.

Hinckley Disappointed At Town's Rejection Application to Birmingham Combination Rejected

Nuneaton Town FC's failure to secure admission to the Birmingham Combination caused disappointment at Hinckley.

"The Hinckley Times" on Friday stated: "From the point of view of Hinckley United, the decision, so far as it affects Nuneaton, is unfortunate. Somehow the Holywellians' fixtures have never seemed quite the same since the Manor Park club was not among the opposition, and, what is more, the finances have never been the same. The local Derbies between Hinckley and Nuneaton could always be relied upon to provide bumper gates, and the last time the clubs met on the Holywell the United were rewarded with one of the biggest crowds for a very long time.

Banking On A Derby Day

In anticipation for next season, Hinckley were banking on Nuneaton's application being successful and there is no doubt that if this had come about a big load would have been lifted from the minds of the Hinckley officials.

"For another season at any rate the Manor Park club will be absent from the Combination, and local rivalry will be missed in the Holywell matches. It is hoped that some arrangement will be made whereby the two clubs will meet, if it is only in friendly matches.

"To a certain extent, Tamworth and Atherstone will maintain some local rivalry for the Hinckley side, but it will be nothing compared with what would have been the case if Nuneaton had been members of the Combination. The turning down of the "Nuns" will also be a big disappointment to the Tamworth and Atherstone clubs.

Town Football Club's Brighter Outlook Optimism Expressed At Annual Meeting

It will be good news to many local people that the troubled times through which Nuneaton Town Football Club has been passing may soon be over, and that the Club's future prospects are now much brighter. At the twenty-eighth annual general meeting of shareholders held at the Cock and Bear Inn on Wednesday evening, an optimistic note was struck by the Chairman, Alderman F. P. Pembleton, when he stated that arrangements were in progress for a fresh mortgage at a very low percentage, and it's confidently expected that during the next few weeks their finances would be arranged so that they would be able to meet their obligations.

Before the business was commenced the Chairman referred to Mr George Taylor, President of the Club, who he said, had been in very indifferent health for some considerable time and had suffered a sad bereavement by the death of his wife. Mr Taylor had been a good friend to the Football Club, and had it not been for his health and the trouble he had been passing through, he would have been a bigger friend in the present than he had been in the past.

It was decided to send a letter of sympathy to Mr Taylor, and the company stood for a few moments in silence.

Financial Arrangements In Progress

In moving the printed report of the directors and the balance sheet, the Chairman said it was quite unnecessary for him to recapitulate all that had happened. There had been three extraordinary general meetings. At the last meeting he told them that the directors would not let the Club down. Since then they had been working assiduously, and he was pleased to be able to report that certain financial arrangements were in progress, and he thought they could look forward with the greatest confidence that during the next few weeks their finances would be so arranged that they would be



able to meet their obligations. They had worked very hard indeed, and he would particularly like to thank Mr Wheway, Mr Stanley, Mr Ford, Mr Ellis, Mr Thomas, the secretary and assistant secretary for the help they had given him in the matter. The arrangements in progress were for a fresh mortgage at a very low percentage – an amount that would, he thought, put them in a position to clear off the Football Association mortgage, assist them to meet their obligations, and put the Club on its feet again. He had seen the gentlemen in question three times and had been able to give him all the information he wanted. All that he now wanted was an area plan of the ground. Things were very hopeful, and he felt pretty confident that they would be able to arrange the finances to the satisfaction of everybody.

The Balance Sheet

Referring to the balance sheet, Alderman Pembleton said they would realise what a fight the directors had had by the fact that there had been a decrease in the gate receipts of £1,143. In order to save expense the directors had used their own cars on several occasions to take the players to fulfil away fixtures. With regard to the special appeal fund this was shown on the balance sheet as £116 15s. 3d. As a matter of fact £150 was collected and this was in the bank at the end of the year, but unfortunately the directors had had to dip into the fund to meet the players' wages – expenses they could not put off. Even then they had only been able to pay some of the players half their wages since Christmas. He expressed thanks to the Working Committee. They had handed over £44 10s. and the directors appreciated what they had done.

Clouds Breaking

Mr T. H. Ford, seconding, said it showed that unless they got a winning team they had not got many loyal supporters. He did not think they should get down-hearted when they took into consideration that it was the first time a substantial loss had been shown on the balance sheet for something like ten seasons. How many clubs in the country could go ten seasons without showing a loss? They had had bad luck during the past season with regard to weather, and bad luck with regard to certain players, and everybody was liable to do that sometimes. First-class teams did the same and first-class managers, and the shareholders could not blame the directors too much for making a slight mistake. If the mortgage could be arranged it would relieve the club of a great deal. He could see the clouds breaking if the supporters would rally round, for they had the nucleus for a good team next year. He thought they were working on the right lines, and they should be on top of the wave next season.

Loss of £644

The report stated that there had been a loss of £644 on the year's working. This was due to inclement weather and the falling off in the gate receipts which showed a decrease of over £1,143 on the previous twelve months' working. The Club resigned from the Birmingham and District League to

apply for membership with the Birmingham Combination and was unsuccessful; but they were re-admitted as members of the District League at that organisation's annual meeting.

The principal items on the expenditure side were: Players' wages and bonus, £1,138 3s. 8d. (last season £1,369); and travelling and hotel expenses, £359 9s. 11d. (£443). The total expenditure amounted to £1,965 1s. 3d. as compared with £2,352 last season.

On the income side gate receipts from league matches, first and second teams, amounted to £958 6s. 7d., as compared with £1,865; from cup-ties £216 18s. 3d. against £1,007; and friendly and practice matches £28 11s. 2d. against £42. Players transfer fees were shown as £110.

Mr Fred Payne said there was not much to object to in the balance sheet, but he did not think it would work out so bad. He got the loss to the club as £946 – £644 to the company, but £946 to the club. Mr Ford had stated that during the past ten years they had not shown a loss, but, although the company had showed a profit in previous years, the club had shown a loss. The year before last a loss of £217 was shown.

In answer to a question by Mr Payne in regard to the secretary's honorarium, the Chairman said this would be paid as soon as they got the money.

Mr Payne: If you can give us the exact amount of the new arrangements and what the interest is going to be, then we can form an idea what it is going to cost the club each week.

The Chairman: We estimate that the interest on the amount we are hoping to borrow will work out at about £30s. a week – about £70 a year.

Mr Payne went on to declare that the Football Association was the best mortgage of all the interests of the club. It should have remained there if they could have seen their way to have got out of the difficulty, but as they could not, he was prepared to accept the directors' present suggestion which avoided the selling of the ground, to which he strongly objected. He was quite aware that the directors had done all they possibly could. They had not expected to make money out of it, for there was no chance of doing that. The downfall was due to paying too much in wages; it was not because of the gates.

The Chairman: Wages are going to be very considerably less this year.

Question Of Transfer Of Players

Mr J. Stanley asked Mr Payne how he worked it out that the club had made a loss of £217 one year.

Mr Payne replied that the club had received £250 from Leicester City for the transfer of Dewis. That year also £150 came from the Supporters' Club.

Mr Stanley: How many clubs exist without transfers or supporters' clubs. The club is out to raise money, and if we make money by transferring players it is credit due to the directors.



The Chairman: I think we ought to treat transfers as a matter of business. It is part of the game. I hope we shall be able to transfer two or three players this coming season.

Mr Payne went on to say that a club should be carried on from the gate receipts, and not from transfers. "If you cannot do that it is bad management," he declared.

The report and balance sheet were then adopted.

Re-election Of Directors

With regard to the election of directors, the Chairman stated that Messrs. S. J. Butler, T. H. Ford and J. Stanley retired and Messrs. Ford and Stanley offered themselves for re-election. Mr Butler did not seek re-election, and Mr C. H. Marston, who had been nominated in his stead, had since withdrawn his nomination. Therefore, there were three vacancies and they could only elect two directors. He moved that Messrs. Ford and Stanley be re-elected directors for the ensuing three years.

This proposition was carried unanimously.

Mr J. Sankey: Has Mr Walter Deans resigned from the Board?

The Chairman replied that Mr Deans had not resigned, but when he took over the chairmanship of the Carnival he sent a letter stating that he would not be able to attend the directors' meetings.

The Player-Manager

Alderman Pembleton stated they had signed on those amateurs who had done so well at the latter end of last season, with the exception of Tromans, who had left the district. Woodhall had offered his services as a part-time player, and he had been signed on. Dowsey had accepted the directors' proposals, but had not actually signed. They had advertised for a player-manager, and out of a number of applicants three had been interviewed. They had practically decided to appoint a player-manager who was an extremely good player and a capable man. He came from the North of England and was full of enthusiasm. He had created a very good impression on the directorate. They were going to give him full control of the team in every way. One or two more professionals were needed, and the new player-manager had got his eye on some very good men. It would be his job to recommend them to the directors. He (the speaker) had the greatest faith in the future, and thought their troubles were getting over.

Mr W. Keeley asked for some information regarding the price of admission to the ground, and the Chairman replied that the directors could not see how it could be less than 9d.

Mr B. Carris suggested that scouts should be sent out to look for new talent, and the Chairman pointed out that this was done last season, and the directors were already discussing the matter for the coming season.

An Unwise Policy

Mr S. Saunders considered that as they could not afford to pay the secretary his honorarium it was a very unwise policy to

engage a player-manager. If they got a player manager for less than £6 a week, he was not worth his salt. He did not think the club was sufficiently strong to warrant a player-manager. They were going to have more officials than players.

Both Mr Ford and Mr Wheway maintained that a player-manager was necessary for the future success of the club.

The Chairman remarked that he wanted the people of Nuneaton to have faith in the club again, which he was afraid they had lost.

On the proposition of Mr A. Savage, seconded by Mr W. Keeley, and supported by Mr B. Carris, it was decided to endorse the directors' action in appointing a player-manager.

It was decided that Messrs. S. J. Butler, S. Saunders and G. H. Wheway be elected life members of the club.

With regard to the price of admission to the matches, Mr Butler considered that it should be left to the directors to fix the gate price, and this was agreed to.

The Chairman remarked that the travelling expenses in the Birmingham League were very heavy. The price of admission to matches would not be less than 9d, out of which they would get 7½d.

Mr Wheway said that if shareholders and supporters would take up extra shares, it would be of great benefit to the club.

Thanks were expressed to the Press and St John Ambulance for their services during the past year, also the secretary, Mr F. J. Perry, and assistant secretary, Mr Osborne. A vote of thanks was also accorded the directors.

Hinckley On The Move?

A sub-committee met on the Ashby Road ground at Hinckley, last week, to consider a proposal for the acquisition of a new ground for Hinckley United FC.

A field adjacent to the Hinckley cricket ground was inspected and favourably considered, and it was suggested that a report and recommendation will be submitted to a meeting to be held during the latter part of this week.

The old Holywell ground has served as the centre of Hinckley football for nearly a century, but its inadequacy has been amplified over and over again, particularly in view of the co-operation of the new district which is to be taken in the Hinckley Urban boundaries shortly. Support has been promised from Burbage, Barwell and Earl Shilton, and it is hoped to have one club to serve the entire neighbourhood. Moreover, the Ashby Road is on a main bus route and it is hoped that Hinckley football will take a step higher as a result of the new move.

Redditch – Extra Preliminary Round

Nuneaton made the journey to Redditch for an Extra-Preliminary Round FA Cup tie.

Nuneaton: Taft; Brown and Russell; Woodhall, Dowsey and Brindley; Blessed, Ashall, Taylor, Bott and Poole.

The first-half was evenly contested, Nuneaton if anything, being just a shade superior. Both sides attacked in turn and Nuneaton had hard lines in hitting the post on two or three occasions.

Just before the interval Taylor made a big effort to give Nuneaton the lead. He had a clear run in, but had the misfortune to hit the bar. From the rebound he shot again, and the goalkeeper touched the ball away for a corner.

Immediately after Taylor, in trying to force his way through, was brought down in the penalty area, but no spot kick was awarded.

The goal which gave Nuneaton victory came two minutes after the interval through Blessed. The Redditch keeper had come out a little and Blessed, with a left footer, lifted the ball over the custodian's head into the net. It was a very neat goal.

The Nuneaton forwards were now combining skilfully and the home keeper had a very busy time. Taylor was often seen going out to the wing to work openings.

Just before the close Taylor scored what seemed to be a good goal, but for some obscure reason the referee gave him offside. Blessed centred to Taylor from almost on the goal-line for the latter to bang the ball into the net. How the referee arrived at the conclusion that he was offside was something of a mystery.

Taylor got in several fine shots before the final whistle.

The game was quite an interesting one, and was played in a fine spirit

of sportsmanship, neither side being guilty of any questionable tactics.

Nuneaton, however, seemed to be dogged by ill luck, and for the second time in a week had a player injured.

It will be remembered that Jack Brown, the Town's right-back had his collar bone fractured in the match with Atherstone on the previous Monday, and on Saturday Poole, the outside-left was in the wars.

The game was about 35 minutes old when the accident occurred. Poole, who had a shot blocked, came into collision with one of the home backs and sustained an injury to the nose. He was taken to hospital for treatment, and although he returned to the field about 12 minutes after the interval, he was a passenger for the remainder of the game.

Leamington Town – Preliminary Round

Nuneaton made the journey to Leamington for a Preliminary Round FA Cup tie. Jack Brown, the Nuneaton right-back, who fractured his collar bone some time ago, was reported still unfit to resume his place in the team. There was a good gate, which included a large contingent of Nuneaton supporters.

Leamington: Handy; Sabin and Symonds; Reading, Green and Cole; Askew, Forrest, Spencer, Eastwood and Fayee.

Nuneaton: Taft; Russell and Hudson; Woodhall, Hewitt and Brindley; Tebbett, Dowsey, Taylor, Ashall and Bott.

Nuneaton had easily the better of the play during the first 20 minutes, and were the first to press. Taylor, from a centre by Tebbett, trying in vain to turn the ball in, and immediately after, Russell tested the goalkeeper with a long drive.

An attack by the home side was dealt with by Hewitt, who headed neatly away. Nuneaton took the lead after 14 minutes. A miskick by Sabin let in the visitors, and led eventually to a centre by Tebbett, who placed the ball

beautifully for Ashall to head into the Leamington net.

Leamington tried hard to equalise, and Russell put in some useful kicking and heading in the Nuneaton defence. The visitors' defence had a very busy time for the next few minutes, and Taft saved from Askew. The Nuneaton keeper showed great judgment during this busy spell.

The game became fast and interesting in the closing stages of the first-half, and there were thrills at both ends.

Leamington became very aggressive and Russell was again prominent in the Nuneaton defence, while Hewitt stemmed one or two home raids. Close on half-time Taylor beat Green, and tested Handy with a shot, which was heading just inside the post.

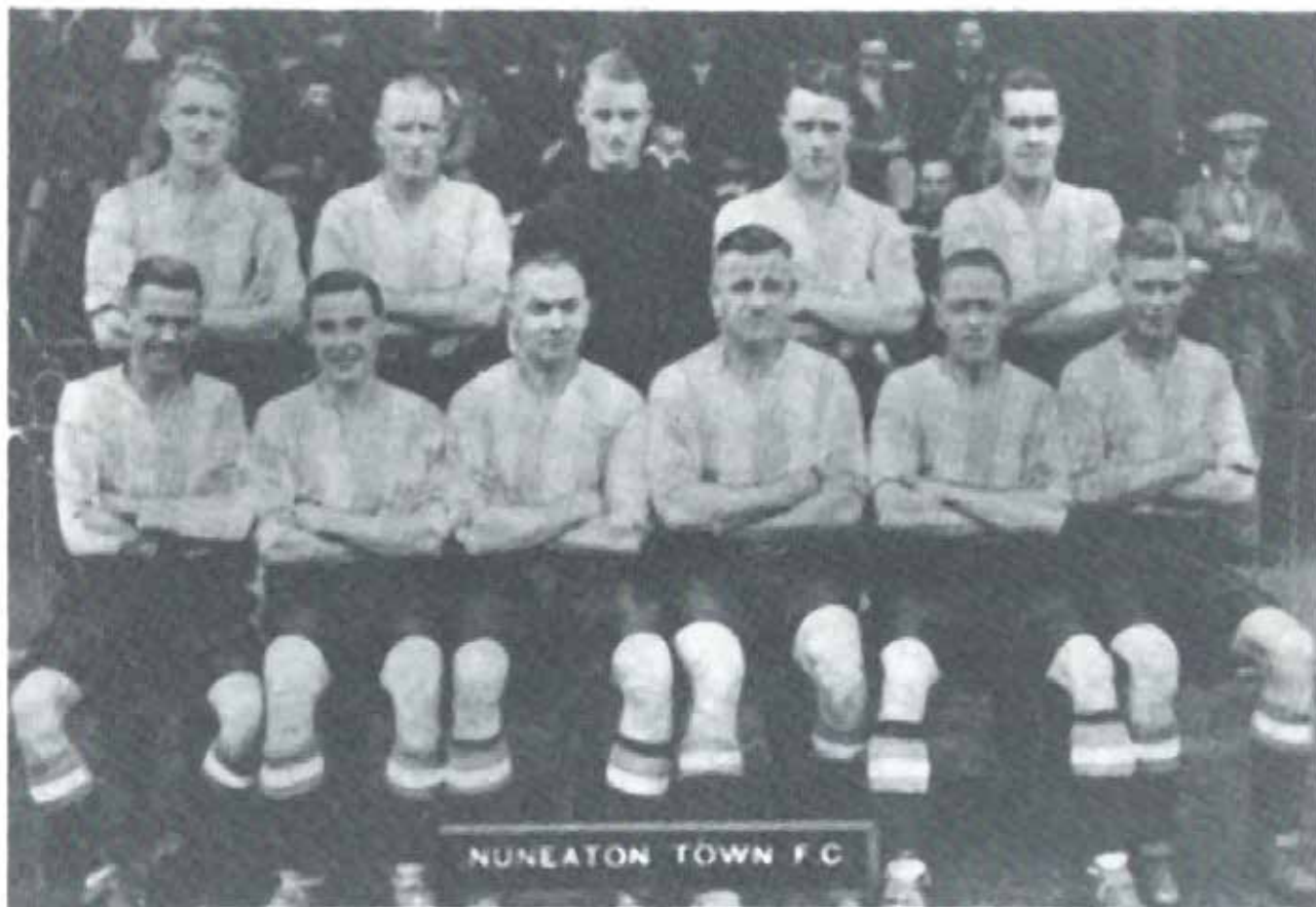
Leamington put on pressure soon after the restart, and Taft had a busy time. There was some erratic passing on both sides, and the quality of play was not so good as that of the first half.

Russell was again in the limelight for Nuneaton, while Taft made one of the best saves of the match when the Nuneaton goal was invaded.

Leamington, if anything, were slightly superior. This superiority became more marked when the Nuneaton team was weakened by injury to Hewitt, who after carrying on for a time had to retire about 25 minutes after the interval, and soon afterwards Leamington scored twice in quick succession through Eastwood and Spencer.

It was a well-fought game and the quality of play was of a high standard. Nuneaton showed good combination in attack during the first-half, but failed to keep their good form after the interval, several opportunities being wasted.

Hewitt was a useful centre-half and it upset the apple cart when he had to retire through injury about half-way through the second half, indeed it is quite significant that both of Leamington's goals were scored after the incident.



Nuneaton Town 1935-36

Back row: Edgar Newett, Jack Brown, J. Taft, Stan Woodhall, Harry Bott,

Front row: W. Blessed, T. Ashall, Jack Dowsey (capt), Joe Taylor,

Vernon Poole, George Brindley.

Nuneaton Town New Player-Manager

J. H. McClure, who has been appointed player-manager of Nuneaton Town AFC, commenced his new duties on Monday (July 20th).

A nephew of Alec McClure, the old Birmingham centre-half, McClure is 29 years of age, is 5ft 9½ins tall and weighs 11 stone. He has had ten years' experience in English League football, having played for Preston North End, Everton and Brentford.

He was a member of the Everton team which gained promotion from the Second Division, and which won the First Division.

In 1935 McClure toured Canada with the FA International team. He has already been in touch with several experienced players

Nuneaton Town FC Supporters' Club Successful Dance

The Nuneaton Town FC Supporters' Club held a successful dance in the canteen of Messrs. Hall and Phillips Ltd., Nuneaton, on Saturday night, some 350 dancing to music discoursed by Bill Lester and his band.

The dance was organised by the Supporters' Club Committee, under Mr J. Sankey (Chairman) and Mr A. Oliver (secretary), the proceeds being in aid of the club funds, and Mr McClure, the recently appointed player-manager, officiated as MC.

Dancing commenced at eight o'clock, and continued until 11.43 pm during which time there were numerous spot and novelty prizes presented.

The hall was decorated for the event with streamers, etc., which gave the dance quite a festive air.

Nuneaton Town 1919-1937 Part 2



Birmingham District League: Fixtures, Results & Scorers- 1935-36

Nuneaton Score First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers
08.31	Cannock Town	Home	League	3-0	Taylor (2), Ashall
09.02	Atherstone Town	Home	NCC Final	2-2	Taylor, Woodward
09.07	Redditch	Away	FAC Extra-Prelim.	1-0	Blessed
09.09	Wrexham Reserves	Away	League	1-2	Ashall
09.14	Worcester City	Home	League	1-0	Taylor
09.16	Cannock Town	Away	League	2-4	Tebbutt, Russell
09.21	Leamington Town	Away	FAC Prelim.	1-2	Ashall
09.28	Brierley Hill Alliance	Home	League	3-0	Ashall (2), Bott
09.30	Coventry City	Home	CHC Final	2-0	Taylor, Ashall
10.05	Oswestry Town	Away	League	0-1	
10.12	Rhyl Athletic	Home	League	3-0	Taylor (2), Russell
10.19	Colwyn Bay United	Away	League	1-3	Taylor
10.26	Leamington Town	Away	BSC 2	4-1	Walton (3), Taylor
11.02	Birmingham City A	Home	NHC Final	3-0	Taylor (3)
11.09	Bangor City	Away	League	3-0	Taylor, Russell, Blessed
11.16	Stafford Rangers	Home	League	2-0	Tromans, Blessed
11.23	Brierley Hill Alliance	Away	BSC 3	1-3	Laycock
11.30	Hednesford Town	Home	League	4-1	Sayce (2), Taylor (pen), Tromans
12.07	Oakengates Town	Away	League	3-2	Laycock, Tromans
12.14	Cradley Heath	Home	League	0-2	
12.21	Shrewsbury Town Res	Home	League	0-0	Abandoned
12.25	Cardiff City Reserves	Away	League	0-3	
12.26	Cardiff City Reserves	Home	League	2-3	Taylor, Laycock
12.28	Worcester City	Away	League	0-5	
01.04	Stourbridge	Home	League	3-3	Tromans, Ashall, Bott
01.18	Stourbridge	Away	League	1-5	Kent
01.25	Wellington Town	Away	League	0-10	
02.01	Hereford United	Home	League	2-0	Tromans, Robson
02.08	Oswestry Town	Home	League	2-0	Robson (2)
02.15	Shrewsbury Town Res	Away	League	2-3	Laycock, Sayce
02.29	Wellington Town	Home	League	0-5	
03.07	Kidderminster Harriers	Away	League	0-2	
03.14	Bangor City	Home	League	2-3	Tromans (2)
03.21	Stafford Rangers	Away	League	0-3	
03.26	Kidderminster Harriers	Home	League	2-3	Wannacott (2)
03.28	Dudley Town	Home	League	2-2	Bott, Kent
04.02	Rhyl Athletic	Away	League	2-3	Laycock, Wannacott
04.04	Hednesford	Away	League	4-3	Wannacott (2), Tromans, Roberts
04.06	Colwyn Bay United	Home	League	5-0	Roberts (5)
04.11	Oakengates Town	Home	League	4-0	Roberts (2), Bott, Wannacott
04.13	Wrexham Reserves	Home	League	5-2	Tromans (3), Roberts, Laycock
04.14	Shrewsbury Town Res	Home	League	1-2	Roberts
04.18	Dudley Town	Away	League	0-3	
04.21	Cradley Heath	Away	League	0-1	
04.23	Hereford United	Away	League	0-3	
04.25	Aston Villa A	Home	LHC S-F	2-0	Tebbutt, Laycock
04.26	Cheltenham	At Leamington	LHC Final	1-2	Tromans
05.02	Brierley Hill Alliance	Away	League	1-2	Bott

Legend: NCC – Nuneaton Charity Cup; FAC – FA Cup; CHC – Coventry Hospital Cup; NHC – Nuneaton Hospital Cup; BSC – Birmingham Senior Cup; LHC – Leamington Hospital Cup



1936-37

First Trial Match Report

Some of the players who are likely to figure in Nuneaton Town's Birmingham League side during the coming season were on view at Manor Park on Saturday, when the Club's first trial match took place before a moderate attendance.

Several of the players in the teams previously advertised did not appear, including Roberts, centre-forward; Robinson, the amateur international goalkeeper; and Parkinson, the full-back from Crook Town. The teams turned out as follows:

Blues: De Looze; Hutt and Hudson; Irons, Whitehouse and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Lane, Higham, Smythe and Hanson.

Reds: Richardson; Eales and Austin; Fisher, Gunn and Edwards; Reynolds, Thompson, Wileman, Hamblett and Colver.

Although the weather was warm, the standard of play was fairly good, and it was possible to form some idea of the teams' respective merits. The Blue and White team showed marked superiority, both in attack and defence. They scored in the first minute through Higham, and got three more goals before the interval, two being credited to Tebbutt. In the second-half the wing half-backs changed sides. The Blue and Whites continued to dominate play and finished winners by seven clear goals. The best player on show was Tebbutt, who was fast and tricky. Two of his goals were real gems.

Second Trial Match Preview

Town have another trial game on Saturday. On the result of this game the team will be selected to meet Brierley Hill on the following Saturday. There are players of outstanding experience among the teams as well as the pick of old favourites. Allport from Cannock will be in one goal and on trial in the other goal will be Dyke, who had had a wide range of experience with Cardiff City, Huddersfield Town and Rotherham United. Dowsey, well-known to Nuneaton fans, will play and also Edwards who distinguished himself in last week's trial game.

At centre-forward will be Verdin, who was top goal scorer in the Liverpool County Combination last season. He has played for Southport and Blackburn Rovers. He is 23 years of age, 5ft. 10ins. and weighs 11st. 10lbs.

It is not yet decided whether to play O'Grady or McElldonnie at half-back. O'Grady is a schoolboy international and has played for Bradford Park Avenue and is 19 years of age. McElldonnie, who has played for Liverpool, is also 19.

Also, at inside forward, will be Walker, the man that Mr McClure, Nuneaton's new player-manager, places great hopes in. So much faith does he place in him that he took the responsibility of signing him without further consultation.

Blue and Whites: Dyke; Dowsey and Hudson; Irons, Whitehouse and O'Grady or McElldonnie; Tebbutt, Smyth, Verdin, Walker and Hamblett.

Red and Whites: Allport; Parkinson and Eales; H. Edwards, McClure and Woodhall; Anson, Ward, Roberts, Lape and Lawrence.

Letter To The Editor: Nuneaton Chronicle

Dear Sir

I write this letter to the sportsmen of this town as an appeal on behalf of the Nuneaton Town FC. It is a well-known fact that the financial position of the club at the present time is very low indeed. I was appointed player-manager and have to try and pull the club out of that position. That in itself is a very hard task, but "it can be done." For my part of the task "it will be done." Now there is another part - the part I appeal to you sportsmen of Nuneaton to play. That is support the club and give it a fair chance to provide for you something better. My directors have confidence in me and they trust me in my efforts. I have won their confidence. Now let me win your confidence. "How can I do it?" In my opinion I have got together a team that will more than hold its own in the Birmingham League. Some of the players are well-known to you; also I have got a very high standard of reserve players. These teams need upholding and it is you and only you that can uphold them. So I therefore appeal to you as one sport to another to support the Nuneaton Town Football Club and I will not let you down in my efforts.

Yours in sport,

J. H. McClure

Third Practice Match

"Reds" beat "Blues" by two goals to one in Nuneaton Town's third trial match at Manor Park on Saturday.

The non-appearance at the start of some of the new Liverpool players caused a delayed commencement. In the second half they were able to appear, and the teams were as advertised, except that McClure, the new player-manager was unable to turn out, having pulled a calf muscle on Tuesday. In his stead Dowsey was centre-half for the Red and Whites and Teagles was at full-back in place of Dowsey.

The teams were pretty well matched throughout, and the respective sets of forwards were not allowed many opportunities to shine, both sides defending stoutly. Roberts, however, who led the Red and Whites' attack, showed that he had not lost his dash and enterprise, showing good speed, and distributing the ball well. He got the only goal of the first half from a scramble in front of goal. Tebbutt did some nippy work on the Blue and Whites' right wing, but found a tough and speedy opponent in Parkinson, the back from Crook Town. Hamblett and Johnson were useful wingers, and a pleasing display at inside-left for the Blues was given by Walker, the young player from Workington, Cumberland, who had some neat tricks.

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The only goal scored in the first-half, came from Roberts, the Arley player, who proved so useful as a leader at the end of last season. He was much in the picture throughout, and Hamblett gave a good deal of trouble, as did Walker for the Blues. The first goal of the second half came to the Reds 20 minutes after the interval. Ward, the inside-left, putting the ball into the net following a fine centre from Johnson.

Brierley Hill Alliance v Nuneaton Town 29-08-1936

Brierley Hill: F. Corbett; Smart and V. Corbett; Lambeth, Harris and Tate; Addis, Postin, Handley, Dainty and Richards.

Nuneaton: Allport; Parkinson and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Tebbutt, Lane, Roberts, Walker and Hamblett.

Nuneaton made the journey to Brierley Hill for the first Birmingham League match of the 1936-37 season. There was a crowd of around 3,000.

Alliance soon became dangerous and play was centred around the Town goal for a time. Roberts and Hamblett co-operated in an excellent Nuneaton effort, but Alliance took up the running again and a centre came in from the right. One player missed the ball in front of goal, but Handley shot into the net from the near post, giving Brierley Hill the lead after just seven minutes.

After a good move by Woodhall and Hudson, Walker tested the home keeper with a splendid shot from the wing, Corbett just tipping the ball away. Dowsey saved at the expense of a corner after an Alliance attack and there was an exciting melee in front of the Nuneaton goal. Tebbutt and Hamblett failed to finish a move started by McClure.

Town attacked and after Corbett had saved Roberts' header, Hamblett banged the ball across the mouth of the goal. Addis made a poor finish to a great Alliance move. Handley threatened, but was neatly checked by Hudson, before Corbett saved a long drive from Woodhall. Handley hooked the ball over the bar from Addis' centre and Hudson stemmed another raid before Handley headed just wide.

After 37 minutes, Handley neatly headed home a centre from the right, giving Allport little chance. Tate took the ball right upfield for Richards to hit the side netting. Hamblett was rather disappointing in the first half, despite admirable passes by Walker. Roberts and Tebbutt were not much in the picture first half.

Nuneaton attacked on the restart, and Roberts centred just outside. A good forward pass by Walker was wasted, but the same player hit the upright, with a corner ensuing. Nuneaton now had the upper hand and Walker sent Hamblett away, who landed a shot on top of the net. The Alliance attacked, and while Nuneaton players stood appealing for offside, Postins headed into the goal, increasing the home side's lead eight minutes after the break.

From an attack by Town's right, Roberts shot, but play was soon transferred and Handley missed the target. Allport made a great save from Addis, while Walker got a shot in at the other

end. Hudson let the home side in, but Allport made a brilliant save from Addis. Woodhall put in a hard drive from a free-kick, which was deflected for a corner, followed by another, from which Alliance escaped and Allport was forced to save.

Hamblett shot over for Town before a good combination move saw Nuneaton attack, but the Alliance backs intercepted. Addis beat Hudson, but Allport came out to make a daring save. Nuneaton pressed towards the close.

Nuneaton Town v Bristol Rovers 31-08-1936

Nuneaton: Allport; Parkinson and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and McElledonnie; Tebbutt, Lane, Roberts, Walker and Hamblett.

Bristol Rovers: Ellis; Murray and Tweed; Murray, O'Mahoney and McCarthy; Buckley, Rose, Harris, Pendergast and R. Pyke.

Nuneaton welcomed Bristol Rovers Reserves to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture.

The game moved at a fast pace from the start and each goal was visited in quick succession. It was evident, however, that the Rovers had the upper hand and through good combination, soon became dangerous.

Dowsey did valuable work in opposing these raids and Allport made some brilliant saves. Rovers kept up the pressure and Hudson rushed across to stop Harris, but couldn't prevent his shot and the ball flew into the top corner of the net, with just seven minutes gone.

Town hit back and Walker just missed with a drive. Rovers kept up the pressure with Buckley being prominent. Good work by Walker resulted in a corner, from which Tebbutt tested Ellis. Walker and Hamblett co-operated well, and the former was all but through on goal. Walker then shot wide before Town had to deal with Buckley's cross. Roberts tried to force his way through from Lane's pass, but play remained in favour of Rovers.

Allport had to make two successive saves as Bristol kept up the pressure, while Roberts shot wide after a speedy run. Lane shot tamely from a good chance, and then Walker went close with a ground shot. Ellis was forced to save from Tebbutt and Walker won applause for a good shot just before the break.

Good work by Dowsey kept play in the visitors' territory for a spell, and eventually Roberts shot over and then tested Ellis following Lane's pass. Allport was cheered for two good saves before the Nuneaton goal fell again when Rose netted despite good work by the home defenders.

Walker continued to be prominent and tested Ellis with a header before Rovers gave the home defence some more anxious moments, as shots rained in for a while. Hudson and Allport worked well in preventing the visitors from adding to their score. Nuneaton played manfully towards the close and following a fruitless corner, a fast move almost brought about the downfall of Bristol's goal, but Roberts failed to find Tebbutt with his pass. Another quick move saw Hamblett force a save out of Ellis at the near post.



Stafford Rangers v Nuneaton Town 12-09-1936

Nuneaton: Kinsella; Parkinson and Hudson; Woodhall, McClure and Dowsey; Edwards, Smyth, Johnson, Ward and Brady.

Nuneaton made the journey to Marston Road to face Stafford Rangers in a Birmingham League game.

The match was an extremely interesting and exhilarating one to watch. A fast pace was maintained throughout the greater part of the game, and the football served up was of a thrilling character. Indeed, there was hardly a dull moment. There was no prolonged midfield play, and neither side had a monopoly of the game.

Several changes were made in the Nuneaton team, and there was a definite all-round improvement. Dowsey, who has played centre-half for Nuneaton so long that he had become to be regarded as an almost permanent fixture in this position, played at left-half on Saturday, and McClure, the player-manager took Dowsey's place in the middle.

The 'star' of the Nuneaton forward line was Edwards, the right-winger, whose brilliant work, particularly in the second-half, won the applause of the Stafford spectators.

Both of Stafford's goals came in the last few minutes of the first half. The game up till then had been fought at a very fast pace and neither side had shown much advantage over the other. Thirty-eight minutes after the start, Rangers broke clean away, for Chell to score from a good opening. A minute or two later Bott, who played for Nuneaton last season, scored with a fine drive from about 25 yards.

In the second half, Nuneaton were easily the better side. They played clever football and had hard lines not to have scored on at least three occasions. The narrowest escape for the home team was when, following a good bit of work by Edwards, Ward hit the post and the ball skimmed right across the goalmouth. A little later Ward again almost scored, the ball hitting the crossbar.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 14-09-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Parkinson and Hudson; Woodhall, McClure and Dowsey; Edwards, Roberts, Johnson, Ward and Colver.

Nuneaton welcomed Hinckley United to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Charity Cup.

On the whole the teams were very evenly matched and neither side could claim any real advantage, although it can be said with perfect fairness that Hinckley were a trifle lucky to escape defeat. Apart from the "Nuns" scoring two good goals, Dowsey shot wide from a penalty in the first-half and then, just before Hinckley got their equaliser, Johnson hit the United upright with a shot which had Hammond beaten to a fizzle, but the shot rebounded from the post to safety.

On the other hand, Hinckley were definitely fortunate with their first goal. Prew's finishing effort was a smart one, but

the fact remains that before Bruce made the pass to him, he obviously handled the ball. The Nuneaton players stopped playing, but the referee waved Prew on and the winger cut in unchallenged to beat the advancing Richardson.

Hinckley were great triers and against a lesser defence may well have won. Their forwards were superior to those of the home side and they swung the ball about freely. On the other hand, Nuneaton's forwards played too close and seemed to get in each other's way. The best forward on the field was Prew. He was a veritable box of tricks and when in possession, led the home defence a merry dance.

Generally speaking, Nuneaton's display gave their supporters little satisfaction. There is still a need for improvement in the attack, someone who can hold the ball and draw the opposition before making a pass.

Nuneaton got their first goal after 35 minutes, when Roberts netted from Edwards' pass. Prew equalised two minutes later and the teams crossed over on level terms. Ten minutes after half-time Johnson again put the "Nuns" ahead after Hammond had only partially cleared a hard drive from the right. Hinckley had the last word when Prew collected a forward pass and shot past Richardson to level the scores.

Nuneaton Town v Kidderminster Harriers 19-09-1936

Nuneaton: Kinsella; Parkinson and Hudson; Woodhall, McClure and Dowsey; Edwards, Douglas, Johnson, Ward and Brady.

Nuneaton welcomed Kidderminster Harriers to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match. There was a crowd of well over 2,000 spectators.

Nuneaton took the lead after 15 minutes following an excellent combined move. Douglas, the new forward, swung the ball across and Brady, tricking the opposition, centred. Johnson shot and the goalkeeper partially saved. Dowsey then rushed in to score Nuneaton's first league goal of the season from close range. There were six players on the floor at the time, four of whom were Nuneaton players.

Nuneaton's second goal came in a rather unusual way, just before half-time. Wannacott, the former Nuneaton player, putting through his own goal, when attempting to head away, but deflecting the ball past his own keeper.

Harriers reduced the deficit a minute after the resumption through Salters, and in the 15th minute of the second half they drew level when Jones centred for Kinsella to punch the ball off Salters' head, with both players falling in a heap. The ball went out to Wilson, and his tame shot crept over the line with four defenders looking on.

The home team were rattled now, and although their spasmodic raids were dangerous, they had fallen to a low level. Boswell scored Kidderminster's next three goals, his second being scored as Nuneaton defenders appealed for offside. Kidderminster's sixth goal was netted by Wilson.



Shrewsbury Town v Nuneaton Town 26-09-1936

Shrewsbury: Rigby; Seymour and Breeze; Bulling, Matthews and Wassall; Baker, Brown, Liggins, Harkin and Hopley.

Nuneaton: Bennett; Dowsey and Hudson; Woodhall, McClure and Albrighton; Edwards, Douglas, Roberts, Walker and Ward.

Nuneaton made the journey to Shrewsbury Town for a Birmingham League game. Nuneaton included ex-Shrewsbury goalkeeper Bennett in their line-up.

The game was 13 minutes old when Shrewsbury took the lead. This came about through a mis-kick by Dowsey which enabled Liggins, the home centre-forward, to net from a good opening. A minute later Harkin increased the lead, having an easy chance to head into the net. The same player put the home side 3-0 up three minutes later, Bennett coming right out and the Nuneaton backs failed to defend the shot.

The home side scored their fourth goal ten minutes after the interval, Brown making an opening for Liggins, who netted with a stinging shot. There were several thrills outside the Nuneaton goal after this, and ten minutes later Brown scored Shrewsbury's fifth goal. The remaining three goals were all scored by Baker, the outside-right, in the last 20 minutes of the match.

No excuses can be made for Nuneaton. Neither in attack or defence could they be called satisfactory, and there was hardly a redeeming feature in their display. They were beaten by a team that played much better football in every respect of the game.

Shrewsbury had by far the bulk of the play throughout and had a useful and well-balanced side which, judging by Saturday's form, should go far in the Birmingham League this season. The score, large as it was, certainly did not flatter them, and was a fair indication of the home side's superiority. Indeed, Nuneaton were fortunate not to have returned beaten by a score which ran into double figures.

Nuneaton Town v Wrexham Reserves 03-10-1936

Nuneaton: Bennett; Parkinson and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Edwards, Douglas, Roberts, Walker and Tebbutt.

Wrexham: H. Jones; F. Jones and Bellamy; Johnson, Charles and Bryant; Barrow, White, Lapham, Brown and Mesham.

Nuneaton welcomed Wrexham Reserves to Manor Park for a Birmingham League fixture. There was a crowd of about 1,000.

Wrexham took the lead after ten minutes. Centre-forward, Lapham, broke through and Bennett came out to the left to meet him, but the Wrexham player dribbled past him and shot. Nuneaton equalised with a penalty 15 minutes later. Roberts was fouled by Bellamy in the penalty area and Douglas drove the ball into the top of the net.

Seven minutes' later, Roberts was again fouled in the penalty area, being knocked over by a visiting defender, and Woodhall netted with the spot kick.

The second half had been in progress 15 minutes when Nuneaton increased their lead thanks to good following up. Walker started the move and Roberts rushed up, but could only tap the ball, and Tebbutt darted in at great speed and banged the ball into the net. The same player scored Nuneaton's fourth goal just before time. It was a remarkable goal, for after the beating the whole defence, he cut in and scored with a clever shot into the corner of the net.

To what can Nuneaton's sudden improvement in form be attributed? It should be said in fairness to the players that each individual member of the team did his share towards the victory, and much better understanding was shown by the forwards, but probably the two main reasons for Nuneaton's victory was the return of Dowsey to his old position at centre-half, and the inclusion of Tebbutt in attack.

Nuneaton's defence gave an excellent display, and tribute must be paid to Harris, of Arley, who created a good impression on his first appearance with the team. He was a powerful left back, and made an admirable partner for Parkinson, who was himself a tower of strength.

Hereford Reserves v Nuneaton Town 10-10-1936

Hereford: Blakemore; B. Davies and Holmes; Ball, Higham and W. Daw; Lloyd, E. Robbins, Davies, Rigby and Lewis.

Nuneaton: Bennett; Irons and Harris; Woodhall, McClure and Edwards; Kent, Douglas, Roberts, Walker and Tebbutt.

Nuneaton made the journey to Hereford United for a Birmingham League fixture. Nuneaton were forced to make changes as Dowsey was injured and Parkinson was unable to get time off work.

Hereford took the lead after five minutes. They broke through on the left and Davies scored from a good opportunity. The home team increased their lead after 17 minutes. A free-kick for Hereford in Nuneaton territory led to Davies having a chance, but he failed and Lloyd's shot was well-saved by Bennett at the expense of a corner, from which Higham headed into the top of the net.

United's third goal came ten minutes later. Rigby got through and from his pass Davies had a clean run in. Bennett came out to him, but could only partially smother his shot, the ball rolling into an untenanted net.

Nuneaton reduced the deficit 11 minutes after the interval, Roberts scoring after having a clear run from midfield. Four minutes later, however, Davies restored Hereford's three goal lead, Bennett being deceived and failing to get to the ball.

It was not a very interesting game to watch, for the football served up by both sides was of a scrappy nature, while the match was made even more uninteresting by the slow pace at which it was played.

Nuneaton were a long time settling down and were very patchy both in attack and defence for a time. They improved towards the interval, while in the second half they played

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much better. Hereford chiefly owed their victory to the powerful leadership of Davies, who performed the hat-trick.

Kidderminster Harriers v Nuneaton Town 17-10-1936

Kidderminster: Walton; Wannacott and Talbot; Staley, Davies and Birch; Richards, McDonagh, Boswell, Wilson and Bowden.

Nuneaton: Bennett; Higham and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Edwards, Ward, Roberts, Walker and Johnson.

Nuneaton made the journey to Kidderminster Harriers for a Birmingham League game.

Play was of a rather tame variety. There were few thrills to rouse the spectators to any great degree of excitement, while good football was impossible owing to the high wind which blew across the ground causing the ball to play strange tricks. Nuneaton had the wind against them in the first half, but the Harriers were held by the visitors' defence, and play was of a fairly even character.

Harriers just about deserved a one goal lead at the interval, Boswell taking advantage of his only really good scoring chance; although on one occasion he did have the ball in the net, only for the goal to be disallowed for offside, when Staley hit the bar and Boswell scored from the rebound. An ankle injury incurred by Ward meant that he had to retire ten minutes before the interval, and three minutes later, Kidderminster took the lead when Boswell scored with a shot from the edge of the penalty area.

The home team did most of the attacking in the second half, but the "ten men" played valiantly and, with the wind in their favour, succeeded in keeping the Harriers penned in their own territory for a time. When the home side asserted themselves, Dowsey did some fine tackling, and it was not until the second half was 27 minutes' old that Kidderminster increased their lead. Boswell tried a shot, but it was charged down by a Nuneaton defender, and the ball fell to Richards, who had little difficulty in scoring.

After this, the Nuneaton defence played well under heavy pressure and Harriers were unable to score again, not even when they were awarded a penalty, which Bennett saved in fine style.

Nuneaton Town v Brierley Hill Alliance 24-10-1936

Nuneaton: Bennett; Parkinson and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Edwards, Roberts, Johnson, Walker and Tebbutt.

Brierley Hill: Corbett; Smart and Kent; Lambeth, Worton and Tate; Addis, Harris, Handley, Moule and Richards.

Nuneaton welcomed Brierley Hill Alliance to Manor Park for a Birmingham Senior Cup second round tie. There was an attendance of around 800.

Brierley Hill took the lead after 12 minutes from a breakaway. Parkinson, the home right back got the ball but was only able to touch it to the goalkeeper, Bennett, and Handley rushed in and netted, the ball hitting the woodwork before going into

the net. Close on half-time the Alliance again broke away, and Richards, their outside-left, made tracks for goal. Bennett went out to meet him, but failed to get the ball, and Richards hooked it into the net.

Nuneaton's goal came 13 minutes after the interval, and it was certainly a fine one. Johnson made a speedy run and centred for Walker to net with a smashing drive. Nuneaton played up well after this, making strenuous efforts for an equaliser, and from one shot the Alliance goalkeeper fell on the ball with McClure in close attendance. On another occasion the home side just missed from a free-kick.

For the greater part of the match, the "Nuns" were on the offensive. The Alliance forwards did not get up the field on many occasions, but when they did their movements were neater than those of Nuneaton, and they were always dangerous in front of goal. Both Brierley Hill's goals came from breakaways in the first half. After the change of ends the Town, with the wind in their favour, became even more aggressive, but although they tried hard, they could not make use of their chances.

Nuneaton Town v Colwyn Bay United 31-10-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Parkinson and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Edwards, Roberts, Johnson, Walker and Tebbutt.

Nuneaton welcomed Colwyn Bay United to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter. There was a crowd of less than 1,000.

Nuneaton's first goal came almost on half-time, when Edwards put the ball across for Tebbutt to head home. Woodhall was responsible for the "Nuns" second goal which came ten minutes after the interval. With a long shot, Tebbutt hooked the ball into the goalmouth, and it bounced over the goalkeeper and into the net, while Johnson was harassing the latter.

Fifteen minutes later the home side increased their lead. A shot by Roberts hit the post and from the resultant melee Johnson tapped the ball into the net, whilst on the ground. Four minutes later, the same player scored Nuneaton's fourth goal. He raced away from midfield, and the goalkeeper came out and kicked the ball against him, but Johnson collected the ball again, ran past Briggs, and put it into an empty net. For the remainder of the game Town simply rained in shots, and Briggs saved several difficult shots, particularly one fierce drive by Edwards.

Nuneaton's attack was let down by a lack of combination and all their efforts were of a disjointed nature, when they would have benefited from a neater, methodical approach. There was not much the matter with the Nuneaton defence, which was not seriously tested, but did all that was needed of it when required. Dowsey played in characteristic style in stopping Colwyn Bay attacks, while Woodhall and McClure also defended well. Parkinson and Harris gave good displays.



Oakengates Town v Nuneaton Town 07-11-1936

Oakengates: Goodchild; Jackson and Evans; Rogers, Chambers and Butler; Pickering, Roberts, Shakeshaft, Pearce and Hayward.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Parkinson and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and Higham; Edwards, McClure, Johnson, Walker and Roberts.

Nuneaton made the journey to Oakengates Town for a Birmingham League game. The match was played under wretched weather conditions, with heavy rain falling for a greater part of the game.

Considering the weather conditions the football served up by both teams was good. Both sides had their share of play, and for the greater part of the game end to end play was the rule. Oakengates, who were always more dangerous in attack, took the lead after eight minutes from a raid on the right. Shakeshaft landing the ball just inside the post.

Nuneaton equalised after 15 minutes play, when Edwards got away, and shooting from the wing, the ball hit the far post before entering the net. Two minutes later the home team regained the lead. A centre from the right had to be dealt with by Richardson. Pearce, the home inside-left then got possession and scored with a good shot, with Richardson temporarily out of position. Dowsey stood in the mouth of the net and attempted to head the ball, but just failed to reach it.

Oakengates continued to be the more dangerous side, and ten minutes before the interval increased their lead, Shakeshaft netting with a firece shot from a pass by Roberts, the home inside-right. About two minutes later the home side were awarded a penalty for an alleged foul on Shakeshaft by Harris, and Jackson, their right-back, netted from the spot kick. Close on half-time McClure passed out to Edwards, who centred for Johnson to head into the net.

The second half had only been in progress about a minute when Oakengates got a gift goal. Harris miskicked and Richardson went for the ball, but missed it, allowing Haywood to put the ball into an empty net. Oakengates did not play quite so well this half, and Shakeshaft missed two fine chances of scoring. With eight minutes to go, however, he scored again, and shortly before time Haywood scored a brilliant goal from a narrow angle. Close on time Johnson got the ball and Goodchild came out to meet him, but could not gather the ball, which Johnson recaptured and put into the empty net.

Nuneaton Town v Stourbridge 14-11-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Higham and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Edwards, Peed, Johnson, Walker and Tebbutt.

Stourbridge: Partridge; Carter and Bowen; Bashford, Talbot and Silvester; Griffiths, Pimbley, Wombwell, Smith and Thorley.

Nuneaton welcomed Stourbridge to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game.

Stourbridge had much less of the play in the first half than their opponents, and were given offside on a number of

occasions. Nuneaton had the wind in their favour before the interval, and the early stages of the game were marked with a succession of thrills outside the Stourbridge goal. Nuneaton apparently could do everything but score, and their weakness in front of goal was painfully obvious.

The home side had a lucky escape when the visitors broke away. Richardson came out to his left to stop a raid, but the ball was centred, and Harris rushed into the mouth of the goal and headed away Pimbley's shot. Nuneaton took the lead after 20 minutes, when McClure headed neatly into the net following a corner. Seven minutes before the interval, Town went further ahead. Tebbutt took a corner kick, and the ball, without touching anyone, went straight into the net after glancing off the underside of the crossbar.

Nuneaton got their third goal about seven minutes after the break, Woodhall, during a home raid, scoring with a brilliant long drive inside the post. Three minutes later Pimbley opened the scoring for Stourbridge with a short-range shot from a tussle in front of the home goal, following a corner. It was at this point that the Nuneaton team showed signs of cracking up, and nine minutes later Pimbley again scored for the visitors. Immediately afterwards a blunder by Higham, who was robbed of the ball, led to Griffiths scoring the equaliser.

Wellington Town v Nuneaton Town 21-11-1936

Wellington: Pell; Beachill and Buxton; Turner, Salmon and Roberts; Whitehouse, Gould, Simms, Young and Dodds.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Higham and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Roberts, Peed, Johnson, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton made the journey to Wellington Town for a Birmingham League encounter.

Wellington took the lead after six minutes through Simms, who netted with a surprise shot, after Dowsey had partially cleared. Two minutes later, Salmon increased the home side's lead from a penalty. Another goal from Wellington came three minutes later, Jones finding the target with a shot which seemed to take Richardson by surprise. Thus the home side had a three clear goal lead after just 11 minutes play.

After 25 minutes, an excellent Nuneaton move ended in Johnson reducing the arrears, the ball going off a home defender. Nuneaton kept up the pressure, making some promising moves, but five minutes later, Wellington raided in strength, and Simms headed on to the bar. Following a rebound, Young put the ball into the net, re-establishing the home side's three goal lead.

From a centre by Whitehouse, Simms increased Wellington's lead a few minutes after the interval. About a minute later, the same player again converted a centre from the left, and it looked as if Richardson ought to have saved. Another minute produced a further goal, this time for Nuneaton, Roberts netting from a centre by Blezard. Dodds then got clear away and centred, for Richardson to save, but in effecting the



clearance, Whitehouse secured and scored the home side's seventh goal. The same player scored another goal shortly before time.

Although faced with an almost hopeless task right from the beginning, Nuneaton gave a very plucky display and were great triers. To a man they exerted every ounce of energy against a team that were their superiors in all departments.

Manor Park Sold To Nuneaton Borough Council

Football Club Relieved Of Anxiety

The Nuneaton Borough Council on Wednesday night decided to buy the Manor Park Football Ground, at a price to be agreed by the District Valuer.

Alderman F. P. Pembleton, Chairman of the Directors, stated on Wednesday night that this decision will relieve the Nuneaton FC of a great deal of anxiety. The ground was owned by the Football Club subject to a mortgage from the Football Association. In July the FA refused a second mortgage on the ground and other mortgagees had to be found.

The price to be paid by the Council has not been divulged, but it is sufficient for the Club to meet their liabilities and have some money to spare to carry on the season in the Birmingham League.

The Finance Committee reported they had received a letter from Messrs. Cartwright and Son offering to sell to the Corporation the Manor Park Football ground and they resolved that the matter be remitted to the Market and Estates Committee. The latter committee recommended the purchase to the General Purposes Committee with power to conclude the negotiations.

It was the General Purposes Committee – the whole Council sitting in committee – who agreed to the purchase of the ground.

Future Of The Football Club

We understand that this decision will not mean the disappearance of the Town Football Club from the ground, but that the club will still carry on for the time being at any rate free from some of the financial troubles which have beset it, including the heavy debut to the Football Association. For a long while the directors have been struggling against financial embarrassment.

Alderman F. P. Pembleton, Chairman of the Directors, informed a Press representative that it was expected the club would be able to rent the ground from the new owners, the Corporation at a sum to be agreed upon. They, the directors, had had a very worrying time for some months, and at one time they were faced with the prospect of having to go into liquidation. Under the new purchase arrangement, if sanctioned, he considered that the club would be able to carry on satisfactorily, and be

able to have a substantial sum left for the following season. Already they had been able to wipe out outstanding arrears of wages of players for the last season, with two or three exceptions. Arrangements had also been come to with regard to debts owing to certain tradespeople.

Club To Have Use Of Ground

Another prominent member of the Council stated that he thought it could be taken for granted that the Town Club would have the use of the ground as long as they desired it.

Asked if it was the intention of the Corporation to make a recreation ground of the land, the member said he thought it would be kept as a sports ground for schoolchildren to have the use of, and play their matches upon, and also the Town Football Club to have use of it in the same way.

Hednesford Town v Nuneaton Town 28-11-1936

Hednesford: Davies; Barker and Smith; Powell, Blunt and Barrett; Corfield, Wilkes, Terry, Caddick and Dunning.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Higham and Harris; Woodhall, Rouse and McClure; Tebbutt, Peed, Roberts, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton made the journey to Hednesford for a Birmingham League encounter.

“Nuns” gave one of their best displays of the season, showing great improvement in attack and defence. They showed up better in the first half, however, despite the fact that they had the disadvantage of having to kick up the steep slope. In the first half, Town did most of the attacking, and played better football than Hednesford. The team as a whole shaped well. They were quick on the ball, and kept up a good pace.

It was pleasing to note a very definite improvement in the combined work of the forwards. At times their passing moves were very neat and praiseworthy. If the good work can be kept up it should not be long before there is considerable improvement in the Town's position in the League.

The goal which gave Nuneaton victory was scored after 35 minutes. The move was started by Walker, and then Roberts passed out to Blezard, who centred neatly for Tebbutt to put the ball into the net. Hednesford had more of the play in the second half, but showed weakness in front of goal. The closing stages of the game were fought in semi-darkness, and in the last minute, Hednesford failed to take advantage of a good opportunity to equalise when they had the goal at their mercy.

With an interval lead of one goal it seemed likely that Nuneaton, with the advantage of the slope, would be able to drive home still further their advantage, but they were unable to do this, chiefly because the home side played much better in the second half, and the Nuneaton goal had one or two very narrow escapes. But the “Nuns” meant to keep their lead if humanly possible, and they played with grim determination which did them the utmost credit. They ran out worthy winners in a well contested game.



There was not a single failure in the Town team. Every man gave a good account and contributed towards his side's success. But there were three players who were outstanding. They were McClure, Rouse and Richardson. McClure worked heart and soul for his side's victory and was always in the thick of the fray. Rouse, the Nuneaton Town Reserves' player, acquitted himself admirably on his first appearance with the senior side and proved a worthy substitute for Dowsey at centre-half. Rouse is a tall, powerful player, and when the ball was in the air, he made full use of his advantage in height. It was Rouse's head that got to the ball nearly every time.

Cheltenham Town v Nuneaton Town 05-12-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Dowsey and Hallam; Woodhall, Rouse and McClure; Kent, Peed, Roberts, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton made the journey to Cheltenham for a friendly game.

The game opened fairly even and at a fast pace. Shots were put in for Nuneaton by Walker, Peed, Blezard and Roberts. A mistake by a Cheltenham defender allowed Blezard to flash the ball across the mouth of the home side's net, but Kent failed to turn the ball in. Jones misses a good chance for Cheltenham, but a minute later Willmore scored from a pass by Park, giving the home side the lead on 35 minutes.

Park went close again a minute later, and for a while the home team swarmed round the Nuneaton goal. Cheltenham had all the play in the closing minutes of the first half, and the Nuneaton defence was in a quandary on several occasions. Their efforts were rewarded just before the interval when Dowsey and Richardson were beaten in turn by Willmore, who netted with an oblique shot.

Cheltenham were awarded a penalty straight after the break for handball against Rouse, but Richardson made a fine save from Ward. Willmore scored again for Cheltenham 15 minutes after the break with a clever shot through a crowd of players, thus completing his hat-trick.

Nuneaton then staged a remarkable rally, and with 25 minutes of the second half gone, the visitors reduced the lead from Roberts' pass, which Blezard netted with a neat shot. Ten minutes later Town scored again from an opening by McClure, who dribbled for some distance and then passed to the scorer, who netted with a fine shot.

Nuneaton Town v Worcester City 12-12-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Parkinson and Dowsey; Woodhall, Rouse and McClure; Tebbutt, Peed, Roberts, Walker and Blezard.

Worcester: Wright; Turner and Reece; Blake, Morgan and Ward; Coulthard, Spalding, Beasley, McCabe and Roberts.

Nuneaton welcomed Worcester City to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. Conditions were far from ideal with sleet falling at the start. The kick off was delayed for ten minutes due to the late arrival of Worcester.

Play in the early stages was of an even character, but after ten minutes things began to happen with a vengeance. Nuneaton started the excitement by taking the lead. Woodhall started a movement with a pass to the left. Blezard put in a nice centre from which Tebbutt turned the ball in from a difficult angle.

Two minutes later Coulthard put Worcester on level terms, hooking the ball into the net from a pass by J. Roberts. Another goal came after a further two minutes, when J. Roberts netted for the City. Three goals had thus been scored in the space of five minutes, but the fun was not yet over, for a minute later Beasley put Worcester further ahead. With the visitors leading by three goals to one the "Nuns" came back with a will, and with the game 20 minutes old Walker reduced the lead with a shot inside the post from a centre by Peed, with the fifth goal of the match in ten minutes.

The remainder of the half produced good football, and for Nuneaton Blezard showed a good turn of speed and put in some neat centres. Roberts was unlucky when, from a centre by Tebbutt, he travelled down the field well only for his shot to go over the angle of the woodwork.

Play tamed down after the interval, and the second half had been in progress for just over half-an-hour when Nuneaton scored the equaliser. The City goalkeeper first saved from Peed, but a struggle followed in front of the Worcester goal, from which Blezard shot into the net. Nuneaton improved towards the close in the failing light, and some good efforts were made by Walker and Roberts.

Worcester City v Nuneaton Town 19-12-1936

Worcester: Wright; Turner and Reece; Blake, Morgan and Ward; Coulthard, Spalding, Beasley, McCabe and Roberts.

Nuneaton: Richardson; Parkinson and Dowsey; Woodhall, Rouse and McClure; Roberts, Tromans, Peed, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton made the journey to St George's Lane, Worcester, for a Birmingham League game.

The game was fairly evenly contested for the first half-hour, but after 38 minutes, City took the lead. Beasley went through the defence on his own and netted, with Nuneaton players under the impression that he was offside. Three minutes later Worcester scored again, McCabe netting following good work in front of goal. For Nuneaton, Blezard just missed with an oblique shot. Just before the break Worcester attacked strongly and Richardson made a series of great saves.

The second half had only been in progress three minutes when Beasley increased Worcester's lead. On this occasion Richardson came right out to meet the centre-forward, who beat both the goalkeeper and Rouse. Shortly after this Woodhall got in a good drive for Town, which had the home keeper beat, but fortunately for City, the ball went just wide.

Ten minutes after the interval Coulthard, the home outside-right, drew Richardson out and scored Worcester's fourth goal, and 13 minutes later Beasley performed the hat-trick

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with a neat goal when he had the Nuneaton defence well beaten. Again Richardson came out but was unable to stop the centre-forward. City's sixth goal came eight minutes before time when Beasley scored for a fourth time by heading the ball into the net from a centre from the left. It was undoubtedly the best goal of the match.

The only really outstanding Nuneaton player was McClure, who gave a stylish display throughout despite terrific odds. The backs, Parkinson and Dowsey, were both off form.

Nuneaton Town v Dudley Town 25-12-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Higham and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Tebbutt, Peed, Roberts, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton welcomed Dudley Town to Manor Park for a Christmas morning Birmingham League match.

Nuneaton kicked off into the strong sun and an early attack was started by McClure but Tebbutt was tackled. From a long pass by Dowsey, Blezard headed into the goalmouth and Nuneaton had an abortive penalty appeal for hands. The home side took the lead after seven minutes when, from a pass by Walker, Peed had little difficulty in banging the ball into the net.

Blezard was applauded for a fine volley, and then Dudley had a spell of pressing, a shot by Edwards causing trouble. Ashall got through, but Richardson came out and robbed him. Blezard earned applause with another neat piece of work, and then Woodhall tested the goalkeeper with a header. Ashall centred, but Harris relieved.

Tebbutt put in some good work and then, from a free-kick by Dowsey, Dudley's goal had a narrow escape. Nuneaton did enough pressing to increase their lead but Dudley eventually equalised after 37 minutes. Ashall broke through, and with a superb volley drove the ball towards the far corner of the net and Edwards touched the ball home. The home side put on pressure again, and Woodhall fired in a hard volley, with the keeper just tipping over. At the other end Richardson saved a stinger from Ashall.

With the scores even, both sides tried hard in the second half for a winning goal. A dash by Blezard led to a Dudley defender handling in the penalty area, 20 minutes after the interval. Woodhall took the spot kick, and shot straight at the keeper, who saved. There was great excitement when Dudley got away. Richardson came out to stop the centre-forward, but the ball went to Warrilow, who missed an open goal.

Dudley Town v Nuneaton Town 26-12-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Hallam and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and Higham; Tebbutt, Peed, Johnson, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton travelled to Dudley Town on Boxing Day for a Birmingham League encounter.

From an early Dudley raid on the right, White missed a splendid chance. Nuneaton then took up the offensive and

indulged in some neat passing movements, but some good centres by Blezard were wasted, with Peed missing one opportunity. Dudley put on some strong pressure for a while, but Nuneaton's defence was on the alert. Richardson made a brilliant save from Warrilow and the latter player was then tackled by Hallam. Dudley took the lead after 31 minutes from a penalty after handball by a Nuneaton defender, with McPherson scoring from the spot.

The game was evenly contested for a spell and Nuneaton equalised about ten minutes after. From a pass by Peed, Blezard got away and scored with a shot from about 20 yards.

On the restart Dudley pressed, but Nuneaton showed power in defence. A pass by Walker sent Blezard away, and for a time Nuneaton were very threatening, Johnson putting a shot wide from a good opportunity. Blezard came very close to scoring again, and Warrilow went close for Dudley.

When Dudley put on pressure a fine display was given by Richardson, the Nuneaton keeper. Nuneaton's winning goal was scored in the closing stages, when from a surprise breakaway Johnson got clean through and netted.

Nuneaton Town v Hinckley United 28-12-1936

Nuneaton: Richardson; Rouse and Harris; McClure, Woodhall and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Roberts, Johnson, Peed and Blezard.

In the replay of the final of the Nuneaton Charity Cup at Manor Park, Hinckley United beat Nuneaton Town by the odd goal in three with Godderidge and Nelson scoring for Hinckley and Johnson for Nuneaton, who were a goal down at the interval. There were about 1,200 spectators.

Nuneaton gave a disjointed display going forward and the marksmanship was moderate. McClure, the right-half and player-manager, went off injured mid-way through the first period and this weakened Nuneaton. Godderidge, the Hinckley centre-forward, was always enterprising, and Bruce was a strong centre-half. Hinckley won on merit.

Early on Johnson got right through and should have scored for Nuneaton, but preferred to pass instead of shooting and the chance was wasted. Two centres by Blezard were not utilised. Following another spell of pressure by Hinckley, Nuneaton advanced, Blezard going close with a fast volley.

Johnson shot into the goalkeeper's hands and two corners for Nuneaton followed. Hinckley took the lead on 25 minutes from a thrilling melee in the Nuneaton goalmouth, from which Godderidge banged the ball into the net. Richardson had to come out on several occasions to clear. Peed did excellent work endeavouring to create openings. Nuneaton had a narrow escape just before half-time, when Godderidge hit the framework of the goal, the ball coming back into play.

Nuneaton resumed at full-strength, McClure going left-half. Hinckley missed from an early corner. Roberts made a run, but Johnson failed to finish. McClure had to leave the

pitch again, while Hammond punched away from Tebbutt, and then Blezard got in a shot. Hammond was injured, but continued. United rushed to the other end, but Gibson's centre was fielded by Richardson. Nuneaton equalised 25 minutes after the interval, through Johnson, from Blezard's centre. Nelson put Hinckley ahead five minutes later.

Oswestry Town v Nuneaton Town 02-01-1937

Nuneaton: Richardson; Hallam and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and Higham; Kent, Peed, Roberts, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton made the journey to bottom-of-the-table Oswestry Town for a Birmingham League game.

The home side took the lead after just two minutes. Nuneaton had set up an attack from the kick-off, and had Oswestry penned in their own half in an apparently hopeless tangle, but from a sudden breakaway, Pritchard, the home outside-left, fired in an oblique shot which Richardson appeared to save, but the ball slipped through his grasp and went into the net. Nuneaton equalised five minutes later when good work by Woodhall led to Peed driving the ball through a knot of players and into the net following some good passing.

Town went ahead immediately after, Kent netting with a neat shot. The game had been in progress about half-an-hour when Oswestry scored a surprise goal much against the run of play. Richardson went out to stem a raid and tried to kick clear, but the ball struck Armstrong, the home centre-forward, and rebounded into the net. In the next five minutes, Oswestry scored twice. Jones netted when he appeared to be well offside, and two minutes later Richardson punched away from an attack, but Formstone shot. Richardson got to the ball, but dropped it and Pritchard shot into the net.

Six minutes after the interval, Amos put Oswestry further ahead, but Richardson was at fault, letting the ball go through his hands. It was a gift goal for the home team. With the second half 26 minutes old Armstrong headed home for Oswestry, making the score 6-2.

Nuneaton made a remarkable rally, and in the space of six minutes scored three goals. The first of these was a gem. Walker passed to the left for Blezard to centre and Kent netted with a downward header. Then came a fine goal by Blezard, who beat the defence in great style to score with an unerring shot, following which Peed headed through from a corner. There now seemed a faint hope that Nuneaton might be able to share the points, but this vanished when in the last minute, Oswestry were awarded a penalty for handball. The spot-kick was taken by Crompton and Richardson saved, but in the tussle that followed, Crompton shot home.

Nuneaton's forwards played well to a man. They were hard workers, and it was a great pity that their efforts did not bring their side victory. It was a bad day for Richardson, who was completely off-form, and his unfortunate lapses probably cost Nuneaton the game.

Nuneaton Town v Stafford Rangers 09-01-1937

Nuneaton: Bennett; Parkinson and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and Higham; Kent, Tierney, Johnson, Walker and Blezard.

Stafford: White; Smith and Duckers; Horton, Johnson and Moss; G Bullock, Williams, Wilding, Harding and S. Bullock.

Nuneaton welcomed Stafford Rangers to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. There was a lot of interest in the home side's new player, Cornelius Tierney, who has played for Glasgow Celtic for four seasons, Belfast Celtic and Exeter.

Rangers took the lead after eight minutes when S. Bullock got clean away from midfield and centred. Bennett came out, but failed to gather the ball and G. Bullock scored with a good shot. Stafford played well after this early success, and their smart passing had the Nuneaton defenders in a quandary.

After a few minutes Nuneaton again took up the offensive and had the better of play for the greater part of the first-half. Sometimes it seemed that Town could do everything but score, but five minutes before the interval Stafford scored their second goal. An attack developed on the right, which led to Harding, the visitors' inside-left, receiving the ball and driving it through a knot of players into the net. A minute later S. Bullock made a fast solo effort, and shot, for Bennett to make a good save.

Stafford were more formidable in attack after the interval, but were unable to improve upon their score thanks chiefly to good work by Dowsey. In the latter stages of the game Nuneaton had a good share of the play, but never looked like scoring.

Taken as a whole the home forward line was far from satisfactory, and there were few really good combined movements. In defence Nuneaton were rather shaky at times, despite great efforts by Dowsey. Bennett, who replaced Richardson in goal, made several good saves.

George Formby Concert At The Palace

George Formby, the celebrated Lancashire comedian of radio, film and stage fame, who is this week playing at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, was the principal artiste at a concert organised by the employees of the local branch of the Midland Red Bus company in aid of the annual outing for poor children of the district, held at the New Palace on Sunday evening. There was a crowded audience.

George Formby, who was accompanied in his songs by the Coventry Hippodrome Orchestra directed by Bill Pethers, received a terrific ovation when he arrived on the stage, and his comic songs evoked the greatest enthusiasm.





Nuneaton Town v Brierley Hill Alliance 16-01-1937

Nuneaton: Sheldon; Parkinson and Hallam; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Tebbutt, McCranor, Froggatt, Walker and Blezard.

Brierley Hill: Corbett; Smart and Follis; Lambeth, Worton and Tate; Addis, Angel, Postins, Harris and Richards.

Nuneaton welcomed second-in-the-table Brierley Hill Alliance to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. The home side included a new centre-forward, Froggatt, who has previously played with Cradley Heath amongst others.

Nuneaton had a fair share of the play in the first-half, but the forwards were ineffective in front of goal, though allowance must be made for the powerful Alliance defence in frustrating their efforts. The game was 22 minutes old when the incident occurred which was to give Brierley Hill both points.

During an Alliance raid Dowsey unfortunately turned the ball into his own goal, the ball curling in just under the bar. It was just prior to this that Sheldon had made a grand full-length save. After the change of ends, Nuneaton had the bulk of play, but their desperate efforts to equalise failed to bear fruit.

Both team excelled in defence and it speaks well for both sides that only one goal was scored, and that one due to a player putting through his own goal. Had the Nuneaton forwards opened out the game a little more their efforts would probably have proved more successful. But they once again adopted the short passing methods which hitherto have proved anything but successful. Many a scoring opportunity was missed by futile "tip-tapping" in front of goal when a good drive might have produced the desired result.

In Blezard, Town undoubtedly have one of the best left-wingers in the League, but it almost seemed at times that the other forwards forgot that there was anybody on the left wing at all, so few passes did Blezard receive. With regard to Froggatt, it cannot be said that he created a good impression.

Bennett, who kept goal against Stafford, was unable to get time off work and his place was taken by Sheldon, of Bermuda, who made his first appearance. He seemed quite nervous at first, but settled down nicely and made some good saves. Although not very strong in his kicking, he handled safely.

Stourbridge v Nuneaton Town 23-01-1937

Stourbridge: Davison; Carter and Bowen; Bashford, Talbot and Silvester; Griffin, Morgan, Wombwell, Smith and Thorley.

Nuneaton: Higham; Woodhall and Hallam; Marshall, Dowsey and McClure; Tebbutt, Moreton, Johnson, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton made the journey to Stourbridge for a Birmingham League encounter. The pitch was in a 'treacherous' state.

A shot by Johnson produced a corner from which a header by Walker nearly got through. A pass by McClure enabled Blezard to centre and the home goal was in danger for a while, Johnson missing a good opportunity. Walker sent Blezard

away and the latter shot well, but Davison pushed the ball round the post. From the resultant corner Johnson shot a good goal, giving Nuneaton a 1-0 lead after 12 minutes.

Stourbridge retaliated but failed to profit from a corner, while just after Higham made a magnificent save from Morgan. Stourbridge became really dangerous, but Nuneaton's defence ably withstood the repeated onslaughts. Both Dowsey and Higham were formidable and saved their goal on several occasions.

Twelve minutes after half-time, Stourbridge scored their first goal through a corner kick taken by Thorley and converted by Wombwell. Nuneaton retaliated, but a free-kick taken by Woodhall did not prove productive. Blezard got clean away and shot for Davison to tip over. There were rapid transferences of play and Nuneaton had a corner on the right from which Walker tested the keeper. A thrilling scene outside the Nuneaton goal followed a centre by Thorley, but the visitors' defence prevailed.

Woodhall saved Nuneaton during a critical situation and the visitors pressed again. After 37 minutes of the second half, Walker put Johnson through for the latter to profit by a splendid chance to bang the ball through, thus equalising. Two minutes later, from Thorley's centre, Griffiths scored with a downward header. Dowsey performed a great tackle when the home side advanced again. The last action of the game saw Wombwell hit the post when a goal seemed certain.

Nuneaton Town v Shrewsbury Town 30-01-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Hudson and Hallam; Dowsey, Rouse and McClure; Tebbutt, McCloud, Johnson, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton welcomed Shrewsbury Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter. Despite work to clear the pitch in the morning, it was still partially covered in snow. The attendance was a meagre 2-300.

Shrewsbury opened the scoring after 18 minutes, Hopley netting with the goalkeeper out of position, and a minute later the same player scored again. Shrewsbury increased their lead through centre-forward Williams and Harkin in the next ten minutes. Five minutes before half-time Shrewsbury scored a fifth goal when Bullock came out to stop Williams, who shot. The ball struck the keeper's arms before going into the net. Blezard scored immediately after for Nuneaton with a shot from the wing. Further goals were added to the visitors' account by Williams and Baker.

Ten minutes after the interval Williams scored his fourth goal, boring his way through the Nuneaton defence before beating Bullock with a smashing oblique shot. A minute or two later Blezard scored for Town. He manoeuvred well and then netted with a shot from the penalty line. Soon after the same player netted yet again, but the referee did not allow the goal, ruling that it had not crossed the line.

With the score standing at 8-3 to Shrewsbury, Baker scored

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again, and then McClure, who went to outside-left, scored for Nuneaton. Just before the final whistle, Blezard scored a gem of a goal, drawing out the goalkeeper and heading the ball over his head into the net.

Nuneaton new keeper, Bullock from Cannock Town, certainly had a baptism of fire, but could not attach much blame to him regarding the number of goals scored, as he received little support from the defence.

Wrexham Reserves v Nuneaton Town 06-02-1937

Wrexham: H. Jones; Readett and Bellamy; F. H. Jones, Hollis and Gibbons; Davies, Lloyd, T. P. Jones, McCartney and Williams.

Nuneaton: Bullock; Whitehouse and Hallam; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Kent, Moreton, Roberts, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton made the journey to Wrexham for a Birmingham League match.

Town displayed some neat passing in the early stages and Roberts tried once or twice to break through. About 15 minutes after the start, McClure tested the keeper with one of the best shots of the match, then Blezard centred neatly following good work by Moreton, but a home defender intervened. After this Wrexham had most of the play, and it was during this period that good work was put in by McClure and Dowsey.

The second half opened in exciting fashion for McClure saved a certain goal almost immediately. Bullock had come out and the player-manager rushed into the goalmouth just in time to turn T. P. Jones' shot round the post. From the resultant corner, however, Jones headed the ball neatly into the net, giving Wrexham the lead two minutes after half-time.

After a spell of attacking by the visitors in which Blezard was prominent, Wrexham increased their lead when Bullock came out to Lloyd, but failed to prevent the inside-right's successful shot. A minute later, from a corner kick on the right, McCartney, the home inside-left, headed into the net, with Bullock coming out in vain. Wrexham had bagged three goals in 15 minutes. Soon after, Bullock made two great saves in quick succession. In the closing stages, Wrexham swarmed round the Nuneaton goal, but Bullock proved safe.

The Nuneaton forwards were no match for the home attack, but both sides were powerful in defence. Due credit must be given to the Town defenders, who worked hard from start to finish, although they found the home forward line a little too good for them in the second half.

Nuneaton Town v Hereford Reserves 13-02-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Parkinson and Whitehouse; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Tromans, McClure, Moreton and Blezard.

Hereford: Blakemore; Ball and Holmes; Davies, Higham and Daw; Derrick, Britton, Laycock, Rigby and Lloyd.

Nuneaton welcomed Hereford United to Manor Park for a Birmingham League encounter. There was a crowd of 5-600.

It was Laycock, the former Nuneaton Town player, who now

plays centre-forward for Hereford, who played a great part in giving United the lead after five minutes' play, for he put Britton through with a deft pass and the inside-right had little difficulty in netting, with Bullock getting a touch before the ball went into the net. But the visitors did not keep their lead long, Nuneaton equalising four minutes later. Following a centre by Woodhall, Moreton had a shot blocked, and the rebound led to a tussle in the Hereford goalmouth, from which McClure touched the ball through.

It was a rather dramatic opening for the match, but if the spectators thought it was the forerunner of heavy scoring they were disappointed for the remaining 70 minutes of the game failed to produce any more goals. There were a few narrow escapes for both sides, but that was all. When McClure swung the ball out to Tebbutt, who raced away and centred, the ball landed on top of the net, and on another occasion when Woodhall sent in a smashing volley from a free-kick the United keeper, Blakemore, was only able to push the ball away for McClure to just miss scoring. Both sides missed chances, with Moreton failing to take advantage of a golden opportunity for Town, and Laycock missing an open goal for United.

On the resumption Blezard went centre-forward for Nuneaton, Albrighton outside-left, and McClure left-half, and though this re-arrangement failed to produce the desired goals, no blame could be attached to Blezard. Nuneaton did not serve up such good football this half, despite the fact that they had most of the play, and they had a great let-off in the last minute when Rigby missed an open goal.

The game saw the re-appearance of Tromans in the Nuneaton team. It will be remembered that Tromans played for Town last season, and his skill and speed were then a great asset to the team. Judging by his performance he is still as fit as ever.

Nuneaton Town v Cardiff City Reserves 27-02-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Whitehouse and Parkinson; Albrighton, Dowsey and McClure; Tebbutt, Moreton, Higham, McCloud and Blezard.

Cardiff City: Deighton; Esloe and Turner; Roper, Williams and Godfrey; Wellsby, Pinston, Smith, Brown and Ovenstone.

Nuneaton welcomed Cardiff City Reserves to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. The ground was in a very muddy state, making ball control very difficult.

Cardiff took the lead after 11 minutes, when Smith successfully converted a centre by Wellsby. The City's second goal, which was scored after 20 minutes play, came in precisely the same manner, Wellsby making a nice centre for Smith to profit with a perfect opening. A minute later the centre-forward almost scored again when he sent a shot just wide. The home goal had one or two more narrow escapes in this half, while for Nuneaton, McClure put in a long drive which was not far off the mark.

Blezard flashed the ball across the mouth of the net, but there was no-one up to take advantage of the opportunity



which presented itself. Just before half-time Higham narrowly missed from a centre by Tebbutt.

With the wind in their favour, Nuneaton fared a little better in the second half, and came very close to scoring when, following a forcing effort by McCloud, Higham struck the bar with a very good drive and just missed from the rebound. McCloud got the ball into the net from a centre by Moreton, but the referee ruled it offside. It was almost in the last minute that Parkinson, with a long dropping shot, sent the ball into the mouth of the net. The goalkeeper missed it, and Higham put the ball into the net.

Supporters' Club Dinner Over £200 Raised For Football Club

At the first dinner of Nuneaton Town FC Supporters' Club, held at the Cock and Bear on Saturday evening, it was stated that over £200 had been raised this season for the football club.

Mr J. Sankey (Chairman) presided, and was supported by Mr A. Oliver (secretary). Mr P. Osborne (treasurer), and members of the club, along with Mr T. Ellis, a director of Town FC, Mr F. J. Perry, secretary of Town FC, Mr J. H. McClure, player-manager, and several other of the players. An apology for non-attendance was received from Alderman F. P. Pembleton, JP, chairman of the board of directors.

The Chairman mentioned that at the beginning of the season they set their minds on raising £200 for the Football Club, and up to the present they had raised £203 odd and they were hoping by the end of theseason to have raised £250.

Would Have Been Finished

The Supporters' Club consisted of twelve members, and he must thank them for the way they had worked during the season. They were hoping to put the football club in a better position than it was in today.

Mr T. Ellis said he could assure them that without the help of the Supporters' Club, the Football Club would have been finished. It had been a hard struggle. That day they had only a few spectators. It was heart-breaking for everybody concerned, including the players and the manager. Several times they had had to come to the Supporters' Club, and they were very thankful to them for what they had done for them.

Birmingham League Football Ruinous

Mr F. J. Perry said the Supporters' Club had achieved a record up to date that season, so far as his experience of the club was concerned, and also before he was attached to the Football Club. The Birmingham League was a costly League to be in. The travelling expenses were great, averaging £1 a man on some journeys, such as North Wales. That day they took £15 on the gate to see a match such as Cardiff City. Then they had entertainment tax to come off, the journey to Cardiff on top of that, and players' wages. What were they to do?

Since they had been in the Birmingham League the club had always had to be subsidised by supporters' clubs or by some other means. Birmingham League football in Nuneaton was absolutely ruinous. He did not think Nuneaton would run in the Birmingham League next season.

“Will Keep On Trying”

Mr J. McClure, the player-manager, said the Supporters' Club had been very good to them from the playing point of view. He should keep on trying. He thought the players had tried too, and it was not their fault they were at the bottom of the League. It had been lack of support, which had been very undeserved. He thought they should be better supported, to bring the standard of football back to the town. He thought everybody appreciated what the Supporters' Club had done.

Music was provided by the Excelsior Male Quartette Party, consisting of Messrs. L. Mullis, T. Shaw, S. Chambers and H. Pugh, and by Wood's Rhythmic Band, of Coton. Several of the Town FC players also contributed to the vocal side of the programme.

Colwyn Bay United v Nuneaton Town 06-03-1937

Colwyn Bay: E. Jones; Lavis and Roberts; Buckdale, Sykes and Curley; Foster, Duncan, Walsh, Smith and Sleaford.

Nuneaton: Bullock; Hall and Parkinson; Albrighton, Dowsey and McClure; Kent, Woodhall, Higham, Tromans and Blezard.

Nuneaton travelled to North Wales to take on Colwyn Bay United in a Birmingham League match.

The early exchanges were rapid, both sides showing keenness. Town, if anything, had the better of the play for a time, and clever work was put in by McClure, while Blezard needed some careful watching. Colwyn Bay scored ten minutes after the start, through Duncan, who appeared to be offside. Nuneaton equalised six minutes later. A shot by Woodhall was partially cleared and Higham rushed back and scored. Following a quick passing movement in front of goal Colwyn Bay regained their lead five minutes before the interval, through Smith, their inside-left.

The home side did most of the attacking in the second half, and showed themselves to be the better team, despite great efforts by McClure and Blezard to obtain an equaliser. Albrighton and Bullock each in turn saved Nuneaton's goal from disaster, and 25 minutes after the break, Smith netted for the Bay, with a fast volley which gave Bullock no chance.

In a desperate effort to save the game in the closing stages, Blezard went centre-forward for Nuneaton and Higham half-back, and although it effected an improvement, the change over came too late to be of any value.

Blezard was once again Nuneaton's best forward, but it was not until he went centre-forward towards the close that he had a chance to shine. Up till then he had been absolutely wasted on the left wing, for he rarely received a good pass.



Nuneaton Town v Oakengates Town 13-03-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Higham and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Tromans, Blezard, Walker and Moreton.

Oakengates: Hoof; Whitefoot and Evans; Pearce, Rogers and Butler; Price, Roberts, Shakeshaft, Brown and Lapworth.

Nuneaton welcomed Oakengates Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game. There were around 300 faithful supporters to witness the proceedings.

Nuneaton had most of the play throughout and took the lead after 10 minutes. Tromans passed to Blezard for the latter to glance the ball into the net. His second goal came about 30 minutes after the start, and was a real gem. Tebbutt centred, but the ball passed across the mouth of the goal and seemed to be going out, but Blezard, from an awkward angle, headed into the net.

Five minutes later he completed his hat-trick when from a free-kick by Dowsey, he scored with a screw shot, the ball hitting the inside of the upright before going into the net.

With three goals lead the "Nuns" seemed to slack off a little after the interval, and Oakengates reduced the margin when the second half had been in progress about 25 minutes, following two good saves by Bullock. Dowsey had to kick away from off the line, but Brown pounced on the ball and netted. The goal seemed to spur the Nuneaton forwards to fresh efforts, and within five minutes, Blezard had scored twice. The first of these came when the Nuneaton centre-forward darted away from midfield and netted with a nicely judged shot.

Soon after Walker hit the bar, and from the rebound Blezard shot into the net. Oakengates attacked, and appeared to get the ball in, but the goal was not allowed. Moreton then scored for Nuneaton following a good run by Tebbutt, and about a minute later, from a rebound after Tebbutt had hit the post, Blezard netted the Town's seventh goal.

Saturday's match was an absolute triumph for Blezard, who was a dynamic centre-forward, scoring six of Town's seven goals. It was the first time that he had played centre-forward throughout the match and he came through with flying colours.

Nuneaton Town v Wellington Town 27-03-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Higham and Hudson; Woodhall, McClure and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Tromans, Blezard, McClure and Walker.

Nuneaton welcomed current league champions Wellington Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League match.

The early exchanges were even and when Wellington tried to get through they were checked by Hudson. Higham stopped their next attack. Albrighton put Blezard through for Nuneaton, and the Wellington keeper McSevich, had to conceded a corner in saving Blezard's hard drive.

The home side continued to shape well, and caused the

visitors' defence a lot of trouble. When Wellington did get going, Bullock did well to save a header from Gould, the inside-right, but the visitors were far from being at their best, and their attacks were easily coped with. Salmon, for Wellington, and Tebbutt, for Nuneaton, both had good shots saved.

The Wellington goal had a lucky escape in the first minute of the second half, McSevich falling in saving the ball, but he managed to scrape it away. Nuneaton opened the scoring when the second half was nine minutes old, Walker netting with a fine shot.

Griffiths equalised for Wellington 11 minutes later before Blezard narrowly missed putting Nuneaton back into the lead. Simms put Wellington ahead against the run of play, 33 minutes after the interval, and four minutes from the end, Blezard levelled the scores from a penalty.

Interesting Local Debate

At a public debate held in the Co-operative Hall on Tuesday night, the motion "That This House Considers War Inevitable" was defeated by a large majority.

The debate, which was largely attended, was organised by the Workers' Education Association, the Nuneaton Debating Society, and the Nuneaton branch of the Women's Co-operative Guild. The vicar of Nuneaton (Canon J. L. White) presided, and said the subject of the debate was one of the greatest and most urgent problems of the day.

In proposing the motion, Mr F. R. Brewer said the 1914-18 war-to-end-war was a ghastly failure. Before the ink was dry on the armistice this country was fighting in Northern Russia. It was only a skirmish, but men died just as bloodily as in the Great War. Since 1918 war had never ceased. "Recent events will be fresh in your minds," he said, "what will this year, next year and the succeeding years bring?"...

...The Rev. F. W. Moyle (vicar of Chilvers Coton), in opposing the motion, said that the proposer of the motion had omitted to mention any change of mentality, which was growing and had been growing ever since the war. Mr Brewer's facts suggested that mentality had not changed, and Mr Brewer omitted to consider the first great experiment that had been made - the League of Nations. He simply alluded to it to show that mankind as a whole was thinking of a different method to settle his disputes. Since the war the League of Nations had succeeded in averting seven wars. They were only small wars, but small wars led to bigger wars...

...Seconding the motion, Mr D. W. Stewart pointed out that mentalities might change but human nature did not, and mentality was secondary to human passions. Those present should recognise life as it was and not as they wanted it to be...



Nuneaton Town v Cradley Heath 29-03-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Higham and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Tromans, Blezard, McClure and Walker.

Nuneaton welcomed Cradley Heath to Manor Park on Easter Monday for a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton made a brilliant start, with Blezard scoring straight from the kick-off. The centre-forward was put through by Walker and made no mistake from close range. Town went further ahead after 11 minutes, Tromans rushing through a centre by Tebbutt. Blezard got a third goal for Nuneaton when he was presented with an easy chance following a bad defensive blunder.

Cradley lacked punch in attack, but reduced the lead about five minutes later, when Russell netted with a brilliant drive following a centre by Wilson. Shortly afterwards J. Griffiths further reduced the lead, though he was obviously yards offside. The referee, however, gave a goal. Russell levelled the scores just before half-time.

Cradley were very menacing in the early stages of the second half, but Blezard gave Town the lead again 10 minutes after half-time, and a little later scored a fifth. Cradley had most of the game after this, but Bullock did fine work in the home goal.

Town played excellent football, and were superior in all departments to their opponents, who were lucky not to have been beaten by a larger margin. Tebbutt was much in evidence on the right wing, and good work was also put in by Tromans. Dowsey, Woodhall, Albrighton and Hudson were strong defenders, while Bullock was safe in goal.

Number Of Clubs Interested In New League Idea Received With Enthusiasm

A well-attended meeting in connection with the proposed new North Midland Football League was held at the Newdegate Arms Hotel, on Wednesday evening, when the constitution of the League was discussed, and suggested rules submitted for its government. Mr H. J. Hatton, of Atherstone, presided.

The meeting was of a private nature, but Mr E. K. Brown (secretary pro tem) afterwards informed a "Chronicle" representative that the clubs represented received the idea very favourably and enthusiastically, and it was unanimously decided to continue the venture. "The general feeling of the meeting was that it was no good making a start until we had sixteen strong clubs," said Mr Brown, "and double that number of clubs have already shown keen interest."

Subject to the League reaching a minimum of sixteen clubs the following are prepared seriously to consider applying for membership of the League:- Kettering, Gresley, Atherstone, Nuneaton, Hinckley, Sutton Coldfield and Whitwick, while preliminary steps have also been taken to revive the Market Harborough, Loughborough Corinthians and Rugby Town

clubs with a view to joining the League. A dozen to twenty clubs have already requested full particulars about the League, including three or four clubs in the South Derbyshire area. The League is to be restricted to 22 clubs.

Mr J. I. Round of Coventry, representing the Birmingham FA, and Mr Jennings, of Leicester, representing Leicester FA, have been added to the list of those nominated to serve on the Management Committee. Probably with Kettering coming in there will also be a nomination from Northants County FA.

A further meeting of the League will be held at the Newdegate Hotel on Friday, April 16.

Cradley Heath v Nuneaton Town 30-03-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Higham and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Marshall, McClure, Walker and Moreton.

A last minute goal by Haywood, his third of the match, robbed Nuneaton of a point at Cradley on Tuesday.

Nuneaton's performance, though defeated, was an excellent one, especially in view of the fact that Blezard and Tromans were absent and that Hudson was injured in the first few minutes and went outside-left for the rest of the game.

McClure led the attack with Marshall at inside-right. On the whole Nuneaton were very unlucky to lose. They well deserved a point.

Haywood had the distinction of scoring in the first and last minutes of the game. After his first goal, McClure netted for Nuneaton and straight from the kick-off Haywood again put the home side ahead.

Early in the second half, Moreton got what appeared to be a perfectly good goal that was disallowed. Later, however, the same player netted again to level the scores. In the last minute of the game, Haywood got his hat-trick.

Bristol Rovers Reserves v Nuneaton Town 31-03-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Higham and Harris; Woodhall, Dowsey and Bird; Kent, Moreton, Tromans, Walker and Blezard.

Nuneaton travelled to Eastville to take on Bristol Rovers Reserves in a Birmingham League match.

For the match at Bristol, Nuneaton were in the unhappy position of having to field several players who were not fit.

Blezard, still not recovered from the injury he received on Monday, had to turn out, but very wisely manager McClure put him outside-left. Walker, too, was scarcely fit, and Bird, a goalkeeper, played left-half.

In the circumstances Nuneaton's heavy defeat against the league leaders was not surprising, and it is to their credit that for half-an-hour, they kept their opponents at bay. The inevitable then happened and the goals began to come.

The match resolved itself into a shooting exhibition by the

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Rovers from the start, but many chances were missed and it was not until 25 minutes had gone that Pendergast scored the first goal. By the interval Pendergast had netted again and Harris had added a third.

In the second half the Rovers did almost as they pleased, the total being raised to eight. The marksmen in this half were Pendergast (2), Harris (2) and Brennan.

Nuneaton Town v Hednesford Town 03-04-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Higham and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Tebbutt, Tromans, Roberts, Walker and Moreton.

Nuneaton welcomed Hednesford Town to Manor Park for a Birmingham League game.

Nuneaton took the lead after 12 minutes. Walker started the movement in Hednesford territory and Tromans, after being temporarily stopped in an effort to break through, followed up, recovered the ball, and scored with an easy shot. Play ruled mainly in favour of Nuneaton for the remainder of the half, but Hednesford equalised with a surprise goal immediately on the restart.

The Nuneaton defence was caught napping, and Craddock, the Hednesford centre-forward, burst through and lifted the ball into the net over the head of Bullock, who had come out to meet him. Although this equaliser put new heart into the visitors for a time they were unable to make any impression on Town's defence who were now on the alert, and they took the lead 13 minutes after the interval. Brilliant work by Walker paved the way for this goal. The inside-left, after dribbling the ball, sent Moreton away and the latter made for goal and shot. His first shot was blocked, but he recovered the ball and netted.

From this point Nuneaton had things pretty much their own way and increased their lead after 26 minutes from a penalty. Roberts was going through when a Hednesford back fouled the ball in the penalty area, and Walker scored from the spot with a smashing drive.

The home defence had a comparatively easy time, and Dowsey, Hudson and Woodhall were equal to all emergencies, while Bullock had one of his easiest tasks of the season in goal. Hednesford, although they shaped well at times in the first half, fell away after the interval. It was a well-deserved victory for Nuneaton, for they were much the better side. At half-time they were leading by one goal to none, and in the second half, after a temporary set-back, the issue was never in doubt.

Bangor City v Nuneaton Town 07-04-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Hallam and Harris; Albrighton, Woodhall and McClure; Tebbutt, Roberts, Blezard, Walker and Moreton.

Nuneaton made the journey to Bangor City for a Birmingham League encounter. It was only a moderate game, with both sides missing chances.

Town kicked off against a strong wind and a blinding sun which made it very difficult for their players to see the ball when it

was in the air. No goals were scored in the first 35 minutes, but at the end of that period Bangor took the lead. Owing to the glare of the sun, Bullock misjudged a centre from the left and the ball went over his head and into the net. On kicking off again the visitors went straight up and equalised through Blezard. Following this, the Nuneaton forwards missed several very good chances and three minutes before the interval Bangor got away and scored.

Immediately on the resumption the sun, which had been a great handicap to Town, was obscured by cloud and Bangor did not have to contend with the same problems that Nuneaton had. Five minutes from the restart Bangor scored again, following which Nuneaton missed chances galore.

Once, however, Blezard did get through and shoot. The ball hit the goalkeeper, and the latter, in attempting to clear hit one of his own half-backs and the ball rebounded into the net. For the remainder of the game, Bangor pressed and lodged two more goals.

Nuneaton Town v Cardiff City Reserves 15-04-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Hallam and Hudson; Albrighton, Woodhall and McClure; Tebbutt, Tromans, Blezard, Walker and Moreton.

Nuneaton made the journey to Ninian Park, home of Cardiff City for a Birmingham League game, on Thursday afternoon.

Cardiff attacked from the kick-off and with only one Town player having touched the ball, Smith scored from the first move of the match.

Subsequently Nuneaton were kept strictly on the defensive, and on ten minutes Hallam was unfortunate enough to divert a shot from Prescott into his own net, while a minute later Smith got a third goal.

It was rarely that Nuneaton attacked, but once or twice Moreton contributed lively raids on the left, but he received poor support from his inside colleagues.

Cardiff resumed strongly and within a minute of the restart went further ahead when Campbell scored from Prescott's centre. Subsequently Cardiff maintained almost persistent pressure, but there was little sparkle in their attacks.

Occasionally, Blezard put in some clever runs through the centre, but generally his efforts were unsupported.

Nuneaton Town v Tamworth 19-04-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; McClure and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Higham, Tromans, Blezard, Walker and Moreton.

Tamworth: Jones; Whitehouse and Scattergood; Smith, Noyce and Brown; Childs, Burton, Plant, Roberts and Sheppard.

Nuneaton welcomed Tamworth to Manor Park for the final of the Nuneaton Hospital Cup.

Tamworth took the lead after 13 minutes. From a pass by Sheppard, Childs had a good opening, and cutting in, scored with a lovely left-footer, giving Bullock no chance. Hudson

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sent just over with a free-kick. Tamworth attacked again, and Plant had a shot blocked by Dowsey. A centre by Higham led to a fruitless corner. Childs broke away and caused Dowsey to concede a corner, which came to nothing.

Nuneaton had a very narrow escape from a centre by Childs, after beating Hudson. Town had a free-kick near their opponents' penalty area, Blezard sending in a fierce volley. Tamworth were soon back, and a shot hit the Nuneaton side netting. Childs beat two opponents and went close with a brilliant drive. Just on half-time, following a free-kick, Walker centred for Blezard to equalise from a good opportunity.

Nuneaton took the lead 15 minutes after the interval, Blezard scoring with a capital shot. Nuneaton were now on top, and half-an-hour after the interval Moreton, from a pass by Walker, cut into the centre and scored a neat goal. Jones saved a smasher by Blezard at the expense of a corner.

Towards the end Woodhall got a remarkable goal with a free-kick a little outside the Tamworth penalty area, the ball hitting the inside of the upright and going behind the goalkeeper and into the net.

Will Football Club Carry On?

Nuneaton Town FC's two remaining matches in the Birmingham League, both at home, are with Bangor City on Saturday and with Oswestry the following Saturday. Both should be attractive fixtures, and it depends largely on their being well or ill-supported, as to whether the Town club will be able to carry on next season.

A shareholders' meeting will be held after the end of the present season, possibly in Coronation week, to consider the position of whether to wind up the present company or not. The future of the club therefore is rather indefinite at the present moment. Should they decide to apply for membership of the Birmingham Combination, they have till June to do so.

Nuneaton Town v Bangor City

24-04-1937

Nuneaton: Richardson; Higham and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Tromans, Blezard, Walker and Moreton.

Bangor: Hollins; Johnson and Morris; Gulliver, Edwards and Bumford; Roberts, McKenzie, Williams, McCarthy and D. Davies.

Nuneaton welcomed Bangor City to Manor Park for the penultimate game of the Birmingham League season.

Both sides seemed to be suffering from an end-of-season feeling. The first half was rather tame, and was fairly evenly fought with neither side being able to claim any real advantage, but after the interval, Nuneaton were definitely the better side.

The first-half was marked by a remarkable number of offside decisions and Nuneaton failed to make any headway, and

then came a nippy run by the Bangor outside-right, Roberts, who was prominent again a few moments later. Nuneaton's defence was kept busy for a time, but Dowsey tackled and cleared in brilliant style. Tebbutt livened up matters with a brilliant run and centre, but none of his colleagues could get the ball. Further attacks by both sides were spoiled by offsidings, while Blezard got through on several occasions, but was unable to profit.

Nuneaton took the lead two minutes after the resumption. Moreton got clean away and sent over a nice centre, giving Blezard a perfect chance with which the latter made no mistake, scoring a smashing drive into the top of the net.

Town missed a good chance of increasing their lead 23 minutes after the interval when they were awarded a penalty, Blezard being pushed by a defender in the area. Blezard himself took the spot kick, and shot straight at the goalkeeper, who saved. Eight minutes later, however, the "Nuns" after maintaining the offensive for a while, put themselves further ahead.

Blezard got away, shook off the two backs who tried to stop him and ran the ball right up to the goal line before beating Hollins. Bangor missed two chances in the closing stages, and Town also had further chances but were let down by their poor finishing.

Nuneaton Town v Oswestry Town

01-05-1937

Nuneaton: Bullock; Higham and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and Albrighton; Tebbutt, Tromans, Blezard, McClure and Walker.

Nuneaton welcomed Oswestry Town to Manor Park for the final match of the 1936-37 Birmingham League season.

The game had an end-of-the-season flavour and lacked any real interest. Nuneaton just about deserved their victory for they were the better of two moderate sides. Blezard was the pick of an unimpressive home forward line, and was a continual source of worry to the opposing defence.

The Nuneaton forwards lacked finish and method, though Tebbutt made one or two good efforts. The defence was sound, Dowsey and Hudson playing particularly well. Oswestry also had a stout defence, and were much indebted to Matthews, their pivot.

The goal which gave Nuneaton both points came three minutes after the interval. McClure supplied Blezard with a beautiful pass, from which the centre-forward scored with a hard drive.

It has been one of the most disappointing seasons in the history of Nuneaton Town Football Club. Both from a financial and playing point of view, the season has been a disastrous one, and the sooner it is forgotten, the better.

The club began the season in the Birmingham League, after an unsuccessful attempt to get into the Birmingham Combination, in a very precarious financial position, and



although the sale of Manor Park to the Corporation relieved the club of a financial burden, the lack of support during the season has done nothing to improve the position, with the result that the Club's fate hangs in the balance. Whether the present club will continue to function next season or whether it will be wound up is a question that will probably be decided at an extraordinary general meeting of directors and shareholders to be held on Thursday, May 13.

Full credit must be given to the officials and to McClure, the player-manager, for their efforts to keep going under extremely difficult circumstances. Much financial help has been given by the Supporters' Club, as a result of organising dances, etc.

There is no doubt that McClure has worked very hard, and no blame attaches to him that the club has not had a more successful season. Dogged by ill luck and handicapped by a lack of finance the Club has really done well to weather the season, for at one time it seemed very likely that it would be unable to do so.

Birmingham & District League Final Table 1936-1937

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bristol Rovers	36	24	8	4	127	44	56
Shrewsbury Town	36	23	4	9	133	64	50
Brierley Hill Alliance	36	22	4	10	106	59	48
Wellington Town	36	20	7	9	114	55	47
Cardiff City	36	21	2	13	87	57	44
Stafford Rangers	36	19	3	13	68	65	41
Kidderminster Harriers	36	18	4	13	90	54	40
Bangor City	36	18	3	15	80	81	39
Dudley Town	36	16	6	14	63	61	38
Worcester City	36	15	6	15	70	66	36
Stourbridge	36	15	5	16	95	77	35
Hereford United	36	15	4	17	61	82	34
Wrexham Reserves	36	13	6	17	73	85	32
Cradley Heath	36	13	3	20	71	85	29
Oswestry Town	36	12	3	21	62	100	27
Hednesford Town	36	10	4	22	56	113	24
Nuneaton Town	36	9	5	22	65	115	23
Oakengates Town	36	10	1	25	62	148	21
Colwyn Bay United	36	7	4	25	51	123	18

Nuneaton Town To Disband

Proposed Formation Of New Company

Nuneaton is now without a Town Football club. At a meeting of the directors and shareholders of the Nuneaton Town Football Club Co., Ltd., held at the Cock and Bear Inn, last night, it was decided to wind up the Club. We understand, however, that a meeting of a group of those interested is to be held next week, to consider the formation of a new company.

Alderman F. P. Pembleton (Chairman of the Directors) presided over the meeting, and said the Nuneaton Corporation were pressing them to know definitely what they were going to do, as the Club had been given first preference of the ground next season. They were assembled to consider the position of the Company, and to make up their minds what they were going to do in the future.

Alderman Pemberton reported that the Football Association had taken up a remarkable attitude to his mind, for they put the matter in the hands of their solicitors, Messrs. Clegg, Sheffield, who wrote and gave them 14 days' notice, or they would foreclose. Before that they had tried all over the place with Mr Cecil Cartwright to get a second mortgage, but nothing came of it.

They saw a firm of solicitors in the town and persuaded them to take over the mortgage. Their solicitors went up to Sheffield and paid out the mortgage, and had since advanced certain monies which had enabled them to pay off the arrears of last year's wages and present accounts. He was pleased to say all accounts had been paid off, including the overdraft at the bank, and there was in the bank at the moment £349 3s. 2d. He thanked the Supporters' Club for their great help. They had handed about £205 to the Club. The question was whether they were going to continue as a Limited Liability Club or whether they were going to wind up.

Mr F. Payne asked if any of the present directors were prepared to carry on.

The Chairman, Mr W. Ford, Mr G. Wheway and Mr J. Stanley said they were not prepared to carry on, after the treatment they had received from the FA, Mr Stanley remarked that he did not see the fun of running a club and losing £30 or £40 a fortnight.

The Chairman moved that a vote be taken as to whether the Company should wind up or not, and Mr Ford seconded.

There were 521 share votes for the winding up of the Company, 69 against and one neutral. The Company was therefore wound up, and it was decided to appoint Messrs. Clay, Russell and Co. as the auditors.

In reply to Mr Buckler, the Chairman said the Nuneaton Corporation were most anxious that there should be a Town Football Club playing on the ground next season. The Council had agreed that the Club should continue with their agreement until August when the football season opened. No rent or rates would be paid, the idea being that the ground should be kept in good condition.

Interviewed after the meeting, Mr H. Watkins revealed that a meeting of a group of gentlemen would be held next week to consider the formation of a new company, and application would be made to the Birmingham Combination. They would also try to get the new North Midlands League going for next season, but it was doubtful whether it would function next year.

Winding Up Arrangement

The annual meeting of the Nuneaton Town Football Club was held at the Cock and Bear Inn, last night, when Alderman F. P. Pembleton presided over a small attendance.

Mr P. Russell, the accountant, stated that although the resolution of May 13 to wind up the club expressed the intentions of the great majority of the members, the solicitors advised that it was technically not in order, and fresh notice had to be given. This notice had been given and the directors had filed with the Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies a declaration of solvency, and expressed their opinion that creditors should be paid off within 12 months. The accounts had been published, and they would see that the leading

feature was that the gates were down by £430, but owing to the fact that the players' wages were down by £583, the loss was no worse than it was the previous year.

The report and balance sheet were adopted.

The question arose as to the sale of kit belonging to the club, which included nets, a roller, mower and other articles, and it was stated that these would realise about £25, which would have to be split up among the shareholders.

It was decided to have a valuation, and to leave it in the hands of Mr Russell, Mr S. Saunders and the Chairman to dispose of the kit, and to offer it to the new club at a reasonable price. Mr Russell was appointed as liquidator.



Nuneaton Town 1936-37

Back row: McEldorney, Parkinson, Allport, Hudson, Woodhall, McLure (player-manager),
Front row: Dowsey, Lane, Roberts, Walker, Tebbutt, Hamblett.

Stourbridge – Extra Preliminary Round

Nuneaton made the journey to Stourbridge for an Extra-Preliminary Round FA Cup tie.

Nuneaton: Allport; Parkinson and Hudson; Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure; Edwards, Lane, Roberts, Ward and Johnson.

Nuneaton held their own in the first half. They had hard luck in the early stages when Edwards got away, cut in quickly and centred to Johnson who turned the ball into the net, but the referee disallowed it for offside.

Nuneaton continued to have the better of the play and took the lead after half-an-hour's play. Following a corner Johnson placed excellently from the flag-kick, and during the ensuing scuffle in front of goal, Edwards netted neatly.

This was the signal for the home side to redouble their efforts, and three minutes later they equalised through Jackson, who had come very near to scoring on two previous occasions. Allport flung himself full-length in vain.

In the second half Stourbridge, although the wind was against them, played brilliantly and goals were scored by Wombwell, Pimbley and Griffiths. Wombwell's goal was a solo effort, Pimbley's goal was a header, from

which Allport made no effort to save. Griffiths scored following a tussle in front of goal.

One or two changes were made in the Nuneaton forward line, and on the whole they were changes for the better. The attack included H. A. Edwards, formerly of Everton Reserves, who took part in the trial games. Ward, of Exhall, and Johnson, of Barwell. Walker, inside-left, was still on the injured list, having pulled a ligament in his leg, but it is understood that he is making good progress towards recovery.

A change of tactics was made in the Nuneaton half-back line, but this did not prove the success that was anticipated. Dowsey, at centre-half, usually plays well back and is indeed more or less a third back for Nuneaton. Without doubt he renders a great deal of useful service in this way and is a tower of strength to the Nuneaton defence.

With the object of strengthening the Nuneaton attack, however, the half-backs, Woodhall, Dowsey and McClure played well up the field, thus giving the "Nuns" what might be described as a double forward line.

With a stronger front line this policy might have been a wise one, but as it was the nippy Stourbridge forwards

were able to slip through and with only the backs to beat, had a good chance of scoring.

The weakness in the Town defence was more pronounced owing to Hudson, the left-back, being injured early in the game. Although he carried on courageously, he was obviously far from himself, and just before the interval he broke down again and had to receive attention from ambulance men.

Edwards, the new right winger, was the pick of the Nuneaton forward line and scored Town's only goal. He was speedy and dangerous and was a decided acquisition to the Nuneaton attack.

Johnson, on the other wing, also put up a good performance. The two inside men, Lane and Ward, were not too impressive, Lane in particular being rather disappointing.

With regard to Roberts, the centre-forward, this player had very little opportunity to shine. He was rarely in the picture, but this was not his fault, but rather that of his fellow forwards who failed to supply him with good passes. He was a hard trier and needed a lot of watching.

In the half-back line, player-manager McClure seemed to have recovered from his recent injury.

ON Thursday, May 13, 1937 a poorly attended extraordinary general meeting of shareholders at the Cock and Bear Inn was presided over by F. J. Pembleton J.P., chairman of the board of directors. Pembleton, six years earlier, as Mayor of Nuneaton, had sung the praises of the football club for the splendid advertisement they had done the Town in winning the Birmingham Combination and Birmingham Senior Cup.

Now, he was one of the chief supporters in favour of the winding up of Nuneaton AFC. By 521 share votes to 69, he got his wish, the Football Club company was wound up, the shareholders receiving two shillings (around £6, 2015) per share.

Before the end of the meeting it was announced that a group of local gentlemen would consider the formation of a new club. One year later the old team's secretary went on record as stating: "The Town club's directors let the public down."



Birmingham District League: Fixtures, Results & Scorers- 1933-34

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers
08.29	Brierley Hill Alliance	Away	League	0-3	
08.31	Bristol Rovers Reserves	Home	League	0-2	
09.05	Stourbridge	Away	FAC E-P	1-4	Edwards
09.12	Stafford Rangers	Away	League	0-2	
09.14	Hinckley United	Home	NCC Final	2-2	Roberts, Johnson
09.19	Kidderminster Harriers	Home	League	2-6	Dowsey, Own Goal
09.26	Shrewsbury Town	Away	League	0-8	
10.03	Wrexham Reserves	Home	League	4-1	Tebbutt (2), Douglas (pen), Woodhall (pen)
10.10	Hereford Reserves	Away	League	1-4	Roberts
10.17	Kidderminster Harriers	Away	League	0-2	
10.24	Brierley Hill Alliance	Home	BSC 2	1-2	Walker
10.31	Colwyn Bay United	Home	League	4-0	Johnson (2), Tebbutt, Woodhall
11.07	Oakengates	Away	League	3-7	Johnson (2), Edwards
11.14	Stourbridge	Home	League	3-3	McClure, Tebbutt, Woodhall
11.21	Wellington Town	Away	League	2-8	Johnson, Roberts
11.28	Hednesford Town	Away	League	1-0	Tebbutt
12.05	Cheltenham Town	Away	Friendly	2-3	Blezard, Scorer Not Known
12.12	Worcester City	Home	League	3-3	Tebbutt, Walker, Blezard
12.19	Worcester City	Away	League	0-6	
12.25	Dudley Town	Home	League	1-1	Peed
12.26	Dudley Town	Away	League	2-1	Blezard, Johnson
12.28	Hinckley United	Home	NCC Final Replay	1-2	Johnson
01.02	Oswestry Town	Away	League	5-7	Peed (2), Kent (2), Blezard
01.09	Stafford Rangers	Home	League	0-2	
01.16	Brierley Hill Alliance	Home	League	0-1	
01.23	Stourbridge	Away	League	2-3	Johnson (2)
01.30	Shrewsbury Town	Home	League	5-9	Blezard (4), McCloud
02.06	Wrexham Reserves	Away	League	0-3	
02.13	Hereford Reserves	Home	League	1-1	McClure
02.27	Cardiff City Reserves	Home	League	1-2	Higham
03.06	Colwyn Bay United	Away	League	1-3	Higham
03.13	Oakengates	Home	League	7-1	Blezard (6), Moreton
03.27	Wellington Town	Home	League	2-2	Walker, Blezard (pen)
03.29	Cradley Heath	Home	League	5-3	Blezard (4), Tromans
03.30	Cradley Heath	Away	League	2-3	McClure, Moreton
03.31	Bristol Rovers Reserves	Away	League	0-8	
04.03	Hednesford Town	Home	League	3-1	Tromans, Moreton, Walker (pen)
04.07	Bangor City	Away	League	2-5	Blezard, Own Goal
04.15	Cardiff City Reserves	Away	League	0-4	
04.19	Tamworth	Home	NHC Final	4-1	Blezard (2), Moreton, Woodhall
04.24	Bangor City	Home	League	2-0	Blezard (2)
05.01	Oswestry Town	Home	League	1-0	Blezard

Legend: FAC – FA Cup; NCC – Nuneaton Charity Cup; NHC – Nuneaton Hospital Cup; BSC – Birmingham Senior Cup

Nuneaton Score First

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