



CLAPTON ORIENT DURING WW2 -- *as at 6 May 2020*

In celebration of the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe - VE Day on 8 May 1945 club historian Neilson Kaufman looks back at the men who appeared for O's during World War Two

Special Thanks

A special word of thanks to five people who helped the Author in compiling this section. Peter Holme a researcher at the National Football Museum, Football Historians Ian Nannstead, Kenneth Westerberg and Terry Frost. Also special thanks to my assistant historian Davis Watson for his assistance in research some of the players.

Finally, last, but not least, long standing O's supporter and club Ambassador and friend Alan Chandler for the helping me on the research of players over the Second World War period, supplying team sheets for some matches over 1939-46. Sadly, Alan died Sunday, 8 December 2019 and also my former deputy historian and co-writer Alan Ravenhill, who died during September 2015.

Without their help this section would not have been fully completed.

Unlike in the First World War when three of O's players were killed in action, none of those profiled below were killed over the Second World War unlike Arsenal who had nine of its players killed in action.

This section on O's history is dedicated to preserving and promoting the history and players of the O's during World War Two

Below are profiles of the wartime players to appear for O's and a name listing with appearances of the amateur players, where detailed profiled information was not always available?

The Leading Appearance and Goalscorers over the War years

Appearances

Fred Bartlett 215, Stan Hall 132, Len Allum 110, Charlie Fletcher 85, George Rumbold 84, Bobby Black 82, Fred Tully 81

Goals

Robert Shankly 29, George Willshaw 28, Matt Armstrong 27, Charlie Fletcher 21, Trevor Ford 15

**[THE A to Z of WARTIME
PLAYERS 1939 – 1946](#)**

Kaufman – May 2020

Albert Victor AICKEN

Right half Bert Aicken, (Often shown in O's team lineups as Aicken or Aitken) known as Vic during his playing days, he was born in Belfast, Ireland on 29 October 1914, who after a spell with Glentoran in Ireland, then he played for Brentford between June 1937 and May 1939, joining for £1000, making 3 League appearances, spending most of his time in the reserve side before returning to Northern Ireland in 1939 to play for Dundalk. He died in Fulham, London during the first quarter of 1972.

He made 1 wartime appearances for West Ham United on 7 November 1942, a 5-2 defeat at Queens Park Rangers, and 1 appearance for Reading in 1940-41 and a further 3 appearances for them in 1942-43, 2 wartime appearances with 0 goals for Watford also in 1942-43. He also made 14 appearances for Brentford with 1 goal between 1940 and 1943.

Aicken made a total of 25 wartime appearances for O's between 1941 and 1944. He made 14 appearances in 1941-42, 1 appearance in 1942-43 and 10 appearances in 1943-44

Leonard Hector ALLUM

Len Allum was born in Reading, Tuesday 17 July 1907. The 5ft 9in and 10st 4lb right half back started off with Maidenhead United before moving to Fulham on amateur forms in August 1929. The England amateur international turned professional with Chelsea in May 1932. He stayed at Stamford Bridge for seven seasons until May 1939, making 93 League and 9 FA Cup appearances with 2 goals. He made his Chelsea league debut at Blackpool in 1932 when he was one of five Chelsea players ridiculed for the leaving the field of play early because of freezing wind and rain.

He made 2 WW2 appearances for Reading in 1944-45. He joined O's on 16 June 1939. He played in six seasons for O's in wartime Regional matches. He scored one own goal in a 3-1 defeat at Reading on 6 January 1945.

Allum died in his native Reading on 15 May 1980, aged seventy-two years and ten months

Allum made a total of 110 wartime appearances for O's, he made 1 appearance in 1939-40, 1 appearance in the London Cup 'B' Division in 1940-41, 18 appearances in 1941-42, 34 appearances in 1942-43, 29 appearances in 1943-44, 21 appearances in 1944-45 and 6 appearances in 1945-46.

Frank ANDREWS

Local Amateur player Frank Andrews made 3 wartime appearances for O's in 1943-44 and played a few reserve games between 1943 and 1945.

ANGEL

A reserve forward who scored 2 goals in the 1942-43 season.

George Rowlands ANTONIO

Centre forward George Antonio was born in Whitchurch, Shropshire, Tuesday 20 October 1914.

He commenced his career with Oswestry Technical College before joining Oswestry Town. He joined Bolton Wanderers on amateur forms and also played South North Staffs before moving to Colwyn Bay United in September 1935. In February 1936 he moved to Stoke City, making 84 appearances with 13 goals. He scored twice in their 10-3 win over West Bromwich Albion in 1937, their record club victory.

He was a wartime guest player with Leeds United from January 1944 to May 1945, making 10 appearances with 3 goals. He also guested for Ipswich Town in 1945-46 with 3 appearances and was also with Aldershot between 1943-45 with 17 appearances and 7 goals, Nottingham Forest between 1939-42 with 11 appearances and 3 goals, Stoke City in 1939-40 with 1 appearance, Aldershot with 1 appearance in 1943-44, Norwich City in 1944-45 with 2 appearances and 2 goals and in 1945-46 with 2 appearances and 2 goals, Notts County between 1942-44 with 24 appearances and 7 goals, York City in 1939-40 with a single appearance and Wrexham between 1939-46 with 6 appearances and 2 goals. He played most of the 1945-46 season for Stoke City making 16 appearances, netting 7 goals.

He re-joined Stoke after the War for the 1946-47 season, making 16 League appearances with 5 goals. During March 1947, he moved to Derby County making 18 League appearances with 2 goals. In October 1948, he moved to Doncaster Rovers and netted 7 goals from 34 League matches. He ended his League career with Mansfield Town making 67 appearances with 2 goals between 1949 and 1951.

After his Football League career had ended, he carried on in non-league football for many years, firstly as player-manager with his old club Oswestry Town between July 1951 and June 1954. In July 1954 he was player-manager with Wellington Town as player-coach between January 1955 until January 1957.

In September 1957 he was appointed player-manager of Stafford Rangers before re-joining Oswestry Town as player-coach in July 1958. He was made player - manager in June 1959 a position he held until June 1962.

His final managerial post was with Welsh village club Berriew in 1963. They had much success winning the Mid Wales League, the League Cup and the Montgomeryshire Cup. The club held a testimonial for him when Stanley Matthews and the Stoke City team came to Berriew to play.

He played local football when well into his sixties in a team called the Shropshire All Stars and then Ellesmere in the Wem Sunday League. He also

played cricket for the Cae Glas Cricket team during the early 1970s. Antonio died in Owestry on 2 July 1997, aged eighty-two.

Antonio made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45

Matthew ARMSTRONG

Matt Armstrong was born in Newton Stewart, in south-west Scotland on 13 November 1911 (not as most profiles show 12 November), a centre forward who started off with Port Glasgow Juniors. He had been provisionally signed by Glasgow Celtic, but they never took up the option and so he joined Aberdeen in 1931, his debut came on 21 November 1931, a 3-0 defeat at Falkirk.

He won 3 Scottish caps whilst with Aberdeen during 1936-37 against Wales, Northern Ireland and Germany and also represented the Scottish League 3 times with 1 goal. He also represented the Scottish League X1 3 times and scoring once in 1935-36.

His 136 Scottish League goals for the Dons is still a club record to this day.

The 5ft 8½in and 10st 12lb player joined O's officially on a wartime transfer on 12 December 1941, whilst being in the Army and stationed down south.

A regular goalscorer with O's during his wartime exploits in East London, making his debut on 2 November 1940 against Queens Park Rangers playing alongside Welsh international Dai Astley. He netted 2 goals against Queens Park Rangers on 20 March 1943.

In the 1945-46 he made 13 wartime appearances for Aberdeen with 8 goals.

In 1946 he joined Queen of the South and stayed for two-years but sadly he was past his best, although still scoring 13 goals from 27 Scottish League appearances. He ended his career as player-coach with Highland League side Elgin City between 1948 and 1951 and then Peterhead in the 1951-52 season.

In the 1970s, he headed the Pools Lottery department at Aberdeen FC. Armstrong died in Aberdeen on 4 October 1995, aged eighty-three.

Armstrong made 41 wartime appearances for O's and scored 27 goals. He made 1 appearance in 1940-41 versus Queens Park Rangers on 30 October 1940, 22 appearances with 13 goals in 1941-42, including 1 goal in a 3-2 defeat to Tottenham Hotspur on 14 February 1942 and 2 goals at West Ham United in a 5-3 defeat on 11 April 1942 and 18 appearances with 14 goals in 1942-43

ASHTON

A reserve player in the 1944-45 season

David John ASTLEY

Astley was born in Dowlais, Glamorgan, Wales on 11 October 1909, as a youngster he worked at the Pennydarren Pit, Wells Street in Cwmbargoed.

Dai, as he always was known was an inside forward, who started off with Merthyr in July 1927 and scored 3 goals from 5 League appearances. He came south to join Charlton Athletic in December 1927 for a fee of £100 and from 95 League appearances, he netted 25 goals. He came to the fore with Aston Villa, joining in June 1931 he notched 92 goals from 165 League appearances and 8 goals from 8 FA Cup appearances.

Another successful period occurred after joining Derby County in November 1936, when scoring 45 goals from just 93 League matches. Astley was with Blackpool when WW2 commenced having played 18 matches with 6 goals. He appeared in the 3 games in 1939 for Blackpool before the Football League was abandoned. In 1939 he made 4 appearances for Charlton Athletic.

On 4 January 1940 permission was obtained by O's new manager William Wright from Blackpool for him to play for the club and he joined O's six days later, scoring on debut in a 3-2 win at Spurs on 20 January, a rare win. He also made 8 appearances with 6 goals in 1939-40 and in 1945-46 with just 1 appearance.

After the hostilities ended, he signed for FC Metz in France, scoring 2 goals from 10 appearances before retiring in 1947.

Astley had a successful coaching career between 1948 and 1957 with Inter Milan where after losing nine games from fifteen appearances he was fired, and also with Genoa in Italy and then in Sweden with Djurgardens IF and Sandvikens IF.

During his career he was capped 13 times for Wales, netting 12 goals.

In 1957 he returned to England and settled in Kent and was landlord of the White Horse in Ramsgate. Astley died in Birchington, Kent on 7 November 1989, aged eighty.

Astley made 23 wartime appearances for O's scoring 8 goals. He made 11 appearances with 5 goals in 1939-40, including 1 goal in a 3-2 win at Tottenham Hotspur on 20 January 1940, 8 appearances with 3 goals in the League and 3 appearances in the London Cup 'B' Division in 1940-41 and 1 appearance in 1945-46

AUSTIN

A local amateur player with the surname of Austin made 1 wartime appearance for O's at half-back in a 3-2 home defeat to Tottenham Hotspur on 14 February 1942.

Harold AYRES

Harry Ayres was born in Redcar, north Yorkshire, 10 March 1920. The wing half, centre forward or inside forward started off with South Bank East End FC and later played with Stockton FC, Grays Athletic and Clapton FC. In July 1945 he joined Fulham, between July 1946 and May 1950, making 43 senior

appearances scoring 11 goals. He moved to Gillingham in June 1950 and appeared 136 times for the Medway club, scoring twice. In May 1955, he moved to Sittingbourne FC.

Ayres died in Grays, Essex on 5 March 2003, aged eighty-two, just five days before his eighty- third birthday.

Ayres made 18 wartime appearances for O's with 1 goal in 1943-44, he was also regular in the reserve side that season.

Harley BAINES

Harley Baines made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44.

Leonard BAINES

Local amateur player Len Baines, brother of Harley, made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

Edgar Albert BALLARD

Ted Ballard was born in Brentford, Middlesex, Wednesday, 16 June 1920, he started with Athenian League side Hayes. During the war years he also guested for Brentford, with 5 appearances.

The tough-tackling 5ft 9in and 11st 2lb wing half guested for O's in the wartime Regional Division Three South (North Section), whilst working in a munitions factory. He later signed for O's in May 1946, making 26 League appearances with 1 goal in 1946-47. In June 1947, he signed for Southampton and stayed for five-years as understudy to Alf Ramsey, making 45 league and 3 FA Cup appearances, with 0 goals. He returned to O's in July 1952, but made no first team appearances, leaving in May 1953.

After a spell with Snowdon Colliery Welfare between 1953-56, he then had a long career in football management before retiring in May 1965 to manage the Clarence Public House in Hastings and then became a franchise official with the Green Shield Stamp Company and he enjoyed watching his boyhood team Arsenal on TV, he died in St. Leonards-on-Sea, 10 June 2008, six days short of his eighty-eighth birthday.

Ballard made 5 wartime appearances in 1945-46, including in a 2-0 defeat at Watford on 19 April 1946, a Third Division Cup north region match.

Frederick BARFORD

Local amateur player Fred Barford made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1941-42.

Charles H. BARNARD

He was born in Edmonton, north London, 5 November 1921. In December 1943, he made his debut for Hendon in a 4-4 draw with Finchley. In total he made 3 appearances that month and one appearance the following season.

The Arsenal registered, 5ft 7in, hard-working and fast raiding centre forward Charlie Barnard , who packed a hard shot in either foot, made 10 wartime appearances for the Gunners in 1945-46. He also made 2 appearances for Notts. County in the same season. He joined the Gunners for £500 in 1945 from Colchester but left them in 1947 having never made a league appearance. He joined Margate in July 1947 and went onto score 26 goals (three hat-tricks) from 43 appearances helping to the Kent League title and in 1948 the Kent League Cup final and Kent Senior Shield. In July 1948 he moved to Ashford . He died in Enfield during May 1987, aged sixty-five, having lived in north London most of his life.

Barnard made 1 wartime guest appearance for O's on 30 March 1946 against Southend United, a 0-3 defeat.

Stanley Cyrille BARNES

Not to be confused with left winger James 'Jack' Benjamin Barnes who was with Exeter City during the same period as Stan was and is often confused as the same player by football historians. Jack was born in Atherstone, Warwickshire in 1905 and played for Atherstone Town, Coventry City, Walsall, Watford, Exeter City and York City. He made a total of 184 League appearances with 31 goals between 1928 and 1935.

Stan Barnes, a wing half was born in Devon during 1914 and was a product of the Ladysmith Junior School. He was with Exeter City between 1933 and 1938 but only played reserve football in the Southern League. He signed for O's on 5 May 1939 from Charlton Athletic but did not feature in the three matches played before League football was cancelled. During wartime football he scored O's consolation goal in a 16-1 defeat at Portsmouth in February 1942, the O's heaviest defeat. It was while staying in his Leyton digs that he met his future wife Ellen and they were married in 1940. During the war years he also turned out for Walthamstow Avenue.

Barnes died at his Chingford, Essex home on Saturday, 21 July 2001, aged 87. At his funeral, the coffin was draped in the red and white colours of Orient with a signed football from the club. His grand children were at the funeral wearing an O's shirt.

Barnes made a total of 65 wartime matches for O's, scoring 3 goals. 1 appearance in 1939-40, 1 appearance in the London Cup 'B' Division in 1940-41, 31 appearances with 2 goals in 1941-42, one goal came against Tottenham Hotspur on 14 February 1942, 20 appearances with 1 goal in 1942-43, 1 appearance in 1944-45 and 11 appearances in 1945-46

Arthur BARRACLOUGH

Barraclough was born in Moorthorpe, Yorkshire, 7 November 1917. His parents ran the local Miners Institute.

He signed for Chelsea in 1936, but only appeared for the reserve side. The outside left made his League debut with Swindon Town in August 1938,

making 21 League appearances and 6 goals and 1 FA Cup appearance. Another player who was on O's books for the 1939-40 season.

On 9 March 1940 he joined Notts County but quickly moved on 19 April 1940 to Doncaster Rovers making 17 appearances with 7 goals, in 1939-40, 6 appearances in 1940-41, 4 appearances with 1 goal in 1941-42 and 1 appearance in 1942-43.

Barraclough made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1939-40

Frederick Leslie BARTLETT

Fred Bartlett was born 5 March 1913 in Reading. He joined Maidenhead United on junior forms before moving to France to play for Club Francais. He joined Queens Park Rangers during October 1932, making 48 League appearances. He moved to O's in May 1937.

As well as making 102 League and Cup appearances for O's between 1937-39 and also after the war between 1946-48, centre half Fred Bartlett also hold the record for the number of appearances in Regional Wartime matches-- 215 appearances. He, along with O's trainer William Peter Wright shared a Benefit in May 1949. He also appeared in the FA Cup in 1945-46 versus Newport Isle of Wight, O's going out over the two legs, 2-3 on aggregate. He also made 2 appearances for Reading in 1940-41 and 1 appearance for Norwich City in 1939-40.

Bartlett moved to Gloucester City in May 1949 and made a total of 69 appearances. He died in Henley-on-Thames during the third quarter of 1968.

Captain Bartlett made a total of 215 wartime appearances, he made 34 appearances in 1939-40, 16 League appearances and 10 appearances in the London Cup 'B' Division in 1940-41, 35 appearances in 1941-42, 33 appearances in 1942-43, 29 appearances in 1943-44, 26 appearances in 1944-45 and 32 appearances in 1945-46

Harold BATES

Inside left Harry Bates made a total of 2 appearances, 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41 and also 1 appearance at Arsenal on a 1-0 defeat on 29 January 1944. He was on the books of Chelmsford City and made 38 appearances for them in 1938-39, as well as playing a number of wartime games for the Essex side.

He also played for O's reserves in 1943-44, including a reserve match at Arsenal on 29 April 1944.

John BAYNHAM

Johnny Baynham was born Ystrad, Rhondda, Wales, Sunday 21 April 1918, started off with Acton United in 1944

The 5ft 6in and 10st 4lb fast and tricky winger made 62 first team appearances for O's between 1946-48. He joined O's in March 1946 from Brentford, playing and in a number of wartime regional matches and scored, when O's won 2-0 at Northampton Town in April 1946. He also played for Brentford in Wartime football.

In August 1949, he moved to Swindon Town, a part-exchange deal for Jackie Dryden. He then played non-league football in Kent before spending eight-years as manager of Chesham United. He died in Hillingdon, Middlesex during February 1995, aged seventy-six.

Baynham made a total of 9 wartime appearances for O's in 1946, scoring one goal, including in a 2-0 defeat at Watford in a Third Division Cup North Region match on 19 April 1946.

Andrew BEATTIE

Full back Andy Beattie was born in Kintore, Aberdeen, Scotland, 11 August 1913, he started his career with the Inverurie Locomotive Works club. He made 1 appearance for Arsenal in the 1940-41 wartime season.

After the war, in 1946, he made 27 League appearances for Preston North End with 3 appearances in 1939-40, 5 appearances in 1940-41, 17 appearances in 1941-42 and 35 appearances in 1945-46. He also guested for Leicester City with 4 appearances in 1939-40, Notts County with 7 appearances in 1939-40 and 13 appearances in 1940-41, Aldershot with 3 appearances in 1939-40 and 2 appearances in 1940-41, Derby County with 10 appearances and 1 goal in 1942-43, Bradford City with 1 appearance in 1945-46 and Manchester City with 2 appearances and 0 goals. He represented the British Army team versus the French Army on 3 January 1940. He also won a total of 12 Scottish Caps, five of which were in Wartime matches. He made his Scottish debut in a 3-1 win over England on 17 April 1937.

After the war, he became Secretary-Manager of Barrow, then in 1949, he took over as manager with Stockport County. After a brief spell at Huddersfield Town, he was Manager of the Scottish National side for the 1954 World Cup.

He was appointed Manager with Carlisle United in 1958 and the following year he was once again in charge of the Scottish National team between March 1959 and November 1960 but had to leave due to his commitments to Nottingham Forest.

He later held various managerial positions and was Scout with several clubs including Liverpool Walsall, Brentford, Wolves and Notts. County. Beattie died in Nottingham on 20 September 1983, aged seventy.

His Managerial record read:

		P	W	D	L
Stockport County	March 1949 to April 1952	150	71	28	51
Huddersfield Town	April 1952 to November 1956	200	86	46	68

Carlisle United	May 1958 to March 1960	84	33	20	31
Nottm Forest	September 1960 to July 1963	140	52	30	58
Plymouth Argyle	October 1963 to May 1964	34	8	13	13
Wolves	August 1964 to August 1965	50	16	8	26
Notts. County	February 1967 to September 1967	22	5	3	15

Beattie made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1944-45.

Robert Edward BEER

Local amateur player Bobby Beer, made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46, he played mainly reserve football for O's.

Richard BELL

Inside left, Richard Bell was born in Aberdeen, Scotland. In 1936, he was with Sunderland, making 1 League appearance. He moved to West Ham United in July 1938, making 1 league appearance and scoring once. He joined the Army and made 1 war time appearance for the Hammers in 1944-45.

Bell made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41

Trevor BESTWICK

A local amateur winger who played for O's reserves, Trevor Bestwick made 1 wartime senior first team appearance for O's this came on 20 September 1941 at West Ham United, a 3-1 defeat before 4 500 fans.

Peter BIRDSEYE

An amateur left winger with the unusual surname of Birdseye, he made 1 appearance for O's in the London Cup 'B' Division during 1940-41, he also made 1 appearance for Millwall in 1940-41. He later played for Wycombe Wanderers, making his debut in October 1946. His son Paul Birdseye played for Wycombe between 1971 and 1982 making 420 appearances with 14 goals.

Robert Watson BLACK

Bobby Black was born in Washington, County Durham, 17 July 1915. He joined West Ham United as a junior in 1935, turning pro the following year, mostly a reserve player, just 2 league appearances, at Upton Park. The 5ft 10in and 11st 2lb left half joined O's, after a loan spell with Larne in Ireland, from the Hammers in July 1938. He made a total of 25 first team games for O's. He played in all three games of the expunged 1939-40 League season.

In 1942 he joined the Royal Navy and was stationed for a number of years in South Africa but was a regular in the O's wartime fixtures before returning to live and work in Shropshire, He died in Bridgnorth, Shropshire during 1979.

Black made a total of 82 wartime appearances, scoring 1 goal for O's. He made 29 appearances in 1939-40, 11 League appearances and 3 London Cup B'' Division appearances in 1940-41, 17 appearances in 1941-42 and 21 appearances, scoring once in 1942-43. He also appeared in the FA Cup versus Newport Isle of Wight in November 1945, O's going out 2-3 over the two legs on aggregate.

John James BLACKMAN

Centre forward John Blackman was born in Brixton, London, 25 November 1911 and was brought up as a young lad in Bermondsey. He started with Weston United before joining Queens Park Rangers in January 1932, he netted on debut on 23 September 1933 in a 2-0 win over Torquay United and scored six goals from his first five appearances. He made a total of 108 League appearances, scoring 62 goals. He also netted 7 goals from 4 FA Cup appearances including 4 goals against New Brighton in a replay on 11 December 1933 and 3 appearances with 2 goals in the Division Three South Cup.

He was with Crystal Palace between 28 October 1935 and 1946, making 99 League appearances, netting a further 52 goals. He also made a single wartime for Aldershot in 1941-42, 1 appearance for Millwall on 28 February 1942, 1 appearance for Charlton Athletic in 1942-43, Brighton & Hove Albion on 20 September 1942, 4 appearances with 1 goal for Charlton Athletic in 1943-44, 8 appearances with 3 goals for Luton Town in 1945-46. After the war, in May 1946 he joined Guildford City and stayed for one year.

Blackman was both trainer and physio with Millwall during the 1960s. He died in Croydon during December 1987, having just turned seventy-six.

Blackman made 8 wartime appearances for O's. He made 2 appearances scoring 1 goal in a 1-1 draw with Portsmouth 1943-44 and 6 appearances, scoring 2 goals against Watford and Portsmouth in 1944-45. He also played against Tottenham Hotspur down the right wing on 21 April 1945, a 4-0 defeat.

John BLAIR

Johnny Blair, the former Motherwell 5ft 11in and 12 st 11lb centre half, made 4 wartime appearances for O's from November 1945. He also coached the players during the season. He was registered at the time with Scottish side Greenock Morton.

Blair was born in Pollokshields, south of Glasgow, Scotland, he started his career with Scottish junior side Yorker Athletic before joining Motherwell in 1931, making his debut against Airdrieonians on 26 August 1931, he went onto make 275 appearances with 2 goals, his first a fifty yard shot against Albion Rovers. He played in Scottish FA Cup Finals, both lost, against Celtic in 1933 and Clyde in 1939. He also picked one Scottish cap in a 3-2 defeat at Wales on 4 October 1933 playing alongside the famous Matt Busby and Willie MacFadyen. In April 1938 he was awarded a benefit for seven-years serve to Motherwell, a match against Third Lanark.

During the war years he turned out a few times for Motherwell while serving in the police force. In August 1944 he joined Morton and played in November against Third Lanark. In January 1946. Blair died in Glasgow during 1975.

BOWERS

A reserve forward who scored 2 goals in the 1942-43 season.

James Murray BOYD

The 5ft 10in outside right, Jimmy Boyd was born in Glasgow, Scotland, 29 April 1907, he started his career with Petershill Juniors before joining Edinburgh St Bernards of the Scottish Second Division. He moved to Newcastle United for £600 in October 1925. He was subject to a court 'test case' as he was an amateur player and Newcastle was forced to pay the fee as a nineteen year old.

The Scottish international player, he gained one cap on 16 September 1933 in Glasgow in a 1-2 defeat to Northern Ireland. He was with Newcastle United for a decade, making 215 senior appearances, scoring 64 goals. In season 1931-32, Boyd grabbed 23 goals from the wing position and was a key player in the Magpies FA Cup glory when winning the FA Cup in 1932. He won a single Scottish cap versus Northern Ireland in 1934.

He joined Derby County in May 1935 for £1 000, making just 9 League appearances, with a single goal. He then joined Bury in January 1937 with 2 goals from 9 League appearances. After a spell in October 1937 with Dundee in Scotland, he signed for Grimsby Town in June 1938 making 38 League appearances, netting 9 goals.

He made 1 wartime appearance for Brighton & Hove Albion in April 1944. Known as a prankster by his teammates, he retired from playing in March 1947 and coached in Sweden. Two years later he was scout with Newcastle and later he also scouted for Middlesbrough. In later life he was a Physical Education instructor and became a top indoor bowls player, representing England before retiring to Westbourne.

He died in Bournemouth, Hampshire, 22 March 1991, aged eighty-four.

Boyd made 2 wartime appearances for O's, one appearance in 1943-44 and one further appearance in 1944-45.

Walter BOYES

Born in Kilamarsh, North East Derby, 5 January 1913, although further research shows he was actually born at 179 St.Philip's Road, Upperthorpe, Sheffield, West Riding in Yorkshire, the home of his parents Walter and Lucy.

Wally Boyes a diminutive but well-built 5ft 5ins and 10st 8lb left-half and later outside-left, started his career with Sheffield Boys and the Moodhouse Mills United Club before turning professional with West Bromwich Albion in February 1931, making 151 League appearances with 35 goals during his seven-year stay at the Hawthorns.

In 1935, he helped Albion reach the FA Cup Final, he scored once but they lost at Wembley to his boyhood team Sheffield Wednesday by 4-2. In

February 1938 he joined Everton for a fee of £6 000, making 49 League appearances with 7 goals helping them to the League title.

During WW2 he appeared as a 'guest' player for a number of clubs, other than the O's, including his League club Everton with 118 appearances and 25 goals between 1939 to 1946, Aldershot 1943-44 with 2 appearances and 1 appearance in 1944-45, Brentford, 2 appearances in 1942-43, Leeds United, with 30 appearances with 8 goals between 1942-1944, Middlesbrough, 2 appearances in 1941-42, Millwall, 2 appearances in 1942-43, Manchester United, 1 appearance in 1944-45, Newcastle United, 2 appearances in 1941-42, Preston North End, 1 appearance in 1944-45, Wrexham, 1 appearance in 1944-45 and Sunderland, 3 appearances with 1 goal in 1942-43

During the War years he served as a Physical Training Instructor at the Aldershot Army Barracks.

After the War, he re-joined Everton, making a further 17 League appearances with 4 goals and 2 FA Cup appearances. He later played for Notts. County alongside the great Tommy Lawton (joining on 9 October 1948, making 3 League appearances and 1 goal). In June 1949 he took up the role of player-coach with the Nottinghamshire team.

He joined Scunthorpe United in 1950 as player-trainer, making 13 League appearances with 2 goals before leaving in 1954 for Retford Town as player-manager and later Hyde United in 1958. He joined Swansea Town as trainer in 1959 but was forced to retire the following May due to illness. He then owned a sports shop on Barnsley Road, Sheffield.

He won 3 England caps between May 1935 and October 1938. A 1-0 win against Holland played at the Olympic Stadium in Amsterdam, against Wales, losing 2-4 at Ninian Park and at Highbury four days later against the Rest of Europe on 26 October 1938, a match held to celebrate FIFA's 75th anniversary, winning 3-0. He also represented the Football League twice.

Between 1952 and 1958 he was a Sportsmaster at Oakwood Collegiate School in Sheffield.

He died at the City Hospital in Sheffield, 16 September 1960, aged 47 years and 255 days.

Boyes made 5 wartime appearances for O's in 1942-43.

BRETT

An inside forward who appeared for the reserve side in 1945-46. He played at Southend United reserves on 8 September 1945

BRIDGES

He was a reserve centre half in 1945-46. He played at Southend United reserves on 8 September 1945.

Charles Edward BROOKS

Charlie Brooks was born in Folkestone, Kent, Thursday, 12 January 1911 and played for Folkestone between 1931-1936, he also played cricket for the town's club, before joining O's. The 5ft 11in and 12st 11lb right back made 6 first team appearances for O's in 1937-38 moving to Crystal Palace in July 1938 and returned to guest for O's from 1940. He died in Folkestone, Kent during October 1980, aged sixty-eight.

C.E. Brooks made a total of 31 wartime appearances for O's, 1 London Cup 'B' Division appearance in 1940-41 and 30 League appearances for O's in 1941-42 and 1 appearance at Portsmouth on 20 February 1943. He was also a regular for the reserve London Combination team during the War years.

William BROOKS

Billy Brooks was a reserve player from 1946, who in the 1947-48 season played for Lansing.

Henry Frederick BROPHY

Six-foot centre half Harry Brophy was born in Leicester, 22 October 1916, but moved to north London as a child and captained Islington Schoolboys he was with Arsenal as a junior player between 1933 and 1936 and later had loan spell with Kent League team Canterbury Waverley and Arsenal's nursery team Margate in 1934-35. He returned to the Gunners in 1936, but during his two-year stay he played only reserve team football.

He moved on loan to Brighton & Hove Albion in 1937-38 without making any League appearances, but he did play for the Seagulls in one Third Division Cups match against Crystal Palace in September 1936. He later broke his leg in a reserve game and returned to Highbury.

He joined Southampton in May 1938, making 38 League appearances with 5 goals playing his first three games at centre forward and netted in each game, all defeats.

During the War he joined the police before joining the Merchant Navy and served on the Hospital ship St Andrew during the Dunkirk evacuation, Other than the O's he also guested for Bradford Park Avenue with 2 appearances in 1942-43, Huddersfield Town with 1 appearances in 1940-41, Fulham with 1 appearance in 1943-44 and Crystal Palace, where he made 2 appearances in 1932.

In 1949, he emigrated to Queensland, Australia and joined the Corinthian Club in Brisbane. In 1954 he took charge of the Australian National team. In 1957 he coached the Mauritius national team before returning to England to gain his coaching badges at Lilleshall.

In 1961, he returned to Australia to coach a number of clubs including Hakoah Sports in Melbourne and Sydney Prague in 1962 and the following year Sydney New South Wales Division One League side Sydney Croatia.

He returned to England six years later to settle in Bedford and died there on 6 November 1996, aged eighty.

Brophy made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44.

James Robert BROWN

A young amateur left-back, Jimmy Brown, made one wartime appearance for O's in 1941-42 whilst on the books of Romford Town. He also appeared for Watford making 9 appearances with 2 goals in 1941-42 and for Brighton & Hove Albion between 1943 and 1945, making 15 appearances.

John Henry BROWNE

Johnny Browne was born in Edmonton, London, 29 December 1915, he started his playing career as a junior with Tottenham Hotspur and was an amateur between 1934-36. In 1939, he joined Aston Villa but during the following April, he broke his leg. During the five and a half years of service with the RAF, he spent mostly in Malta and Egypt, he took part in forty raids as a Wellington Bomber tail gunner which included the first 1000 bomber raids on Cologne, Germany.

Browne, who was a forward, stood just 5ft 4ins and weighed just 8st 5lb, was nicknamed 'Tom Thumb' by his colleagues. During the war years, Browne, continued his football as a guest player for Tottenham Hotspur in 1940-41 with 1 appearances and 3 appearances in 1943-44 before joining Southern League side Bath City for the 1944-45 season but he left after two seasons. On January 1, 1949, he joined Ramsgate Athletic. Browne died on 23 November 1990, in Santa Ana, California, USA, a month or so before his seventy-fifth birthday.

Browne made 3 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45, scoring once at Portsmouth on 30th August 1944.

Bernard BRYANT

Bernie Bryant, known by his friends as 'Old Hookey' because he missed a lot of player functions and training sessions, was an amateur centre forward or inside right with Walthamstow Avenue who also guested for Crystal Palace, with 4 appearances in 1943, including 2 goals against Clapton Orient in a 5-2 win on 4 September 1943, Tottenham Hotspur with 7 appearances and 2 goals in 1943-44, Chelsea and Arsenal on 22 January 1944. He served as a Guardsman in the military. On 13 February 1944 he led the forward line for the Army X1 match against a Norwegian Forces team.

He never appeared in the Football League but later played for Hendon in 1946-47 scoring 33 League and Cup goals from 32 appearances and with Hayes in 1947-48 scoring 3 goals from 8 appearances.

Bryant made 16 wartime appearances for O's in 1943-44, scoring 8 goals against Watford, Reading (an 8-2 defeat on 30 October 1943), Brentford, QPR, Aldershot, Charlton Athletic, Brighton & Hove Albion and Luton Town.

Peter Symington BUCHANAN

Buchanan was born Glasgow, Scotland, Wednesday, 13 October 1915. The 5ft 10in and 10st 7lb forward started off with Scottish junior club Wishaw Rangers in 1934-35 before coming south of the border to join Chelsea in November 1935, making 35 League appearances with 6 goals. During the War years he also made 15 appearances with 6 goals in 1939-40 and 17 appearances with 6 goals in 1944-45 for Chelsea.

He was with Fulham from March 1946, making 21 senior appearances and netting 1 goal. He joined Brentford in August 1947 and made a total of 74 League appearances with 13 goal and ended his playing career with Headington United (Oxford United) in September 1949, making 49 Southern League appearances with 18 goals.

On 10 February 1945, he made 1 WW2 'guest' appearance for West Ham United, in a 1-0 win over Tottenham Hotspur before 21 000 fans He also appeared for Aldershot in 1939-40 with 4 appearances and 1 goal, Portsmouth in 1939-40 with 28 appearances with 3 goals, Southampton in 1942-43 with 10 appearances and 2 goals finally with Crystal Palace in 1944-45 with 1 appearance.

Buchanan earned one Scottish cap on 8 December 1937 against Czechoslovakia, scoring once in a 5-0 victory before a 41 000 Hampden Park crowd. He died in Strathaven, Scotland, 26 June 1977, aged sixty-one.

Buchanan made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46.

Reginald Harold BUNGAY

Reg Bungay was born in Reading on 5 February 1911. A solid left back who started his career with Huntley & Palmers and then Oxford City, before moving to Tottenham Hotspur in 1931 but with little chance of first team football he moved to Plymouth Argyle a year later but despite spending two seasons with Argyle he could only manage 3 League appearances, before signing for Bristol City in 1935. His debut came in a 5-1 defeat at West Ham United on 4 September 1933.

After just 8 League appearances at Ashton Gate he moved onto Mansfield Town and in just over two-years he made 87 League appearances with 5 goals. and 11 cup appearances with 1 goal.

He joined O's on 11 May 1939 and played in all three matches of the 1939-40 expunged season, before football was stopped due to WW2. He died in Reading during 1986.

Bungay made 1 wartime appearance for O's on 16 December 1939 versus West Ham United, a 6-1 defeat.

Walter BUNYAN

Goalkeeper Walter Bunyan, who was with O's in the 1939-40 expunged season as a reserve player, but soon after joined Chelmsford City. In April 1942 he represented the Army versus the Navy. He made 1 wartime appearance for Brighton & Hove Albion in 1941-42.

Bunyan made 2 wartime appearances for O's versus Chelsea, O's lost 2-6 on 13 January 1945 and in a 1-0 defeat to Portsmouth on 3 February 1945.

Jonathan BURNETT

Amateur player Jonny Burnett made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41. In 1944, he was also a reserve wartime player for West Ham United, having also been on the books of Tooting & Mitcham.

Thomas William BUSHBY

For the visit to Portsmouth on 20 February 1943, O's half-back Bobby Black missed the train and on hearing the news Pompey manager Jack Tinn allowed his right-half-back players Billy Busby to play for the O's and he gave a sterling performance against his colleagues, O's unluckily losing 1-0.

Bushby was born in Shildon, 21 August 1914 and first played football for the Timothy Hackworth School and later represented Durham County Schools. In 1932 he joined Shildon Colliery Welfare before going south to join Southend United on amateur forms in September 1933, signing pro forms a year later. He remained with them for five seasons, making 40 League appearances with 12 goals and 4 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals.

In June 1939, he joined First Division Portsmouth but due to the outbreak of the War he made no League appearances for them but did play between 1939 and 1946 making 76 WW2 appearances with 10 goals, this whilst working for the Folland Aircraft Company. He also made 1 WW2 appearance for Southampton in 1942-43. He signed for Southampton in September 1946 and appeared twice at right half in games against West Bromwich Albion on 5 October 1946 and against Birmingham City on 1 February 1946. In 1947 he joined Cowes FC and enjoyed a long and happy stay of seven years, making 232 consecutive appearances. He was appointed manager of Sarisbury, a small Hampshire village club near Fareham.

On retirement he re-located to Warsash, Fareham and died there on 23 December 1997, aged eighty-three.

Frank Cyril BUTTERWORTH

Local amateur Frank Butterworth, who was born in Barking, 23 November 1914, was a good quality centre half who was on the books of Isthmian League side Barking and between 1935 and 1946 netted two hat-tricks and four goals twice in a game.

Butterworth, who was 6ft and weighed 12st was stationed in Leeds from September 1942 and during his four-year stay there he made 108 WW2 appearances for Leeds United, scoring 8 goals. He also made 2 FA Cup appearances for them in January 1946 against Middlesbrough, losing 6 - 11 on aggregate.

He made the fourth highest number of WW2 appearances for Leeds between September 1942 and December 1945. In March 1943 he made 1 WW2 appearance for Watford, a 6-1 loss to West Ham United.

After the war, he was a regular with Walthamstow Avenue until leaving in 1949. He never played in the Football League. Butterworth died in Wokingham, near Reading during July 1999, aged eight-four.

He made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

Alfred Godfrey CALVERLEY

Alf Calverley was born in Huddersfield, Saturday, 24 November 1917. The outside left was a junior with Huddersfield Town in 1934 having joined them from school. He was with Mossley in 1939, making 2 appearances.

He guested for several clubs during WW2 including, Huddersfield Town, 1939 and 1945, making 9 appearances with 3 goals, a hat-trick against Leeds United, 2 appearances in 1944, Coventry City, 1 appearances 1945-46, Bradford City, 1939 to 1942 with 3 appearances, Darlington, 1 appearance in 1939-40, Sheffield Wednesday, 1 appearances in 1944-45 and Yeovil Town, in 1945-46 with 3 appearances and 2 goals.

Calverley made his League debut with Mansfield Town in 1946-47 making 30 League appearances with one goal. He moved to Arsenal in March 1947 for £2 500, playing 11 times. He went to Preston North End four months later for a fee of £1 500 with 13 appearances.

In November 1947 he joined Doncaster Rovers for a then record transfer fee of £4 000, he played 142 League matches, scoring 11 goals and 2 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals between 1947 and 1952. He retired due to injury in December 1952.

He died in Sheffield during October 1991, aged seventy-five.

Calverley made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46 at Mansfield Town, a guest from Huddersfield Town, in a 2-0 win on 16 February 1946.

James CAMPBELL

Winger Jimmy Campbell was born in Bridgeton, Glasgow, 25 November 1918. His father, also James, was an engineer and former footballer with Reading.

He was educated at the Bernard Street School and then at the Whitehill Secondary. He left school to become an apprentice dental mechanic.

He started his playing career with St Mungo Juniors before signing for Glasgow Celtic in 1938, having turned down both Aberdeen and Heart of Midlothian, being on £5 per week and continuing at night school with his dental studies.

In 1940 he enlisted into the Royal Army Dental Corps training school in Aldershot and then won a place in the schools' football team.

During his stay at the dental school he made guest appearances for Aldershot with 5 appearances in 1940-41 and 1 appearance in 1941-42, Folkestone Town, O's and Chelsea with 2 appearances in 1942-43. During this time, he took a PE course and was promoted to Corporal. In 1942 he joined the Army Physical Training Corp and became a Serjeant Instructor and played for Partick Thistle, making his debut on 5 December 1942 in a 4-1 defeat at Dumbarton.

During the war years he trained the French resistance and also acted as a body guard to Lt Col Hardy Amies, later to become the Queens Courtier but he was still registered with Celtic, he then spent three seasons playing for Leicester City making 46 Wartime appearances with 11 goal plus making one appearance in the FA Cup on 5 January 1946, a 1-1 draw at Chelsea, scoring City's only goal but he had to leave the field with a cut eye and concussion.

After the war he signed for Walsall whilst maintaining his own dental practice at the Glasgow Dental Hospital. He later had a brief stint as assistant manager with Reading.

Unfortunately his great skill down the wing was never seen in the Football League. In 1952 he graduated as a Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

In 1954 he gave up playing football returning to Glasgow where he bought his own dental practice in Bothwell Street. In 1970 he was appointed Assistant Dental Surgeon within the Glasgow Dental Hospital and then as a full-time Associate Specialist in 1975.

He also got involved in athletics and coached the Bellahouston Harriers and at the Maryhill Ladies Athletic Club. At the age of sixty-four he started marathon running. After his retirement he took up coaching duties with both Motherwell and St. Johnstone.

Until his death in Glasgow on 12 January 2011, aged ninety-two, he was married to his wife Mary for seventy-years.

Jimmy Campbell made 6 wartime appearances for O's, 5 appearances in 1942-43 and 1 appearance in 1943-44.

William CAMPBELL

The Scottish born centre forward Billy Campbell guested for O's when he was with Raith Rovers in the 1945-46 season, scoring twice against Notts. County in a Division Three south (Northern section) League match in December 1945,

a 3-3 draw and twice in a 4 -3 defeat at Walsall in a cup match during January 1946.

Campbell made three wartime appearances for O's, scoring 4 goals in 1945-46 He also made a number of reserve appearances.

CARTER

A right winger named Carter played on the wing in a 0-3 defeat by Southend United on 30 March 1946 and at Northampton Town on 6 April 1946.

Frederick William CHADWICK

The 5ft 10in and 11st centre forward Fred Chadwick was born in Manchester, 8 November 1913, he started his career with Manchester League amateur side British Dyes, netting 72 goals. After a short spell with Manchester City he joined Wolverhampton Wanderers in May 1935, but left in September 1936 to join Newport County, making forty League appearances with 18 goals.

During WW2, he was held as a POW by the Japanese after being captured in Singapore for several years and worked on the Siam railway. He once hit six-goals for Norwich City during December 1940 in a 18-0 win over Brighton and 4 goals against both Tottenham Hotspur and Aldershot. He also guested for Cambridge, Southend United with 2 appearances in 1940-41 and Norwich City with 1 appearance in 1941-42.

In 1938-39 he had a successful season with Ipswich Town with 41 League and Cup appearances, netting 23 goals. He also hit 3 reserve goals from 7 appearances.

He married Nancy and they were together for nearly fifty-years, having five children.

He was registered with Ipswich and made 5 WW2 appearances with 3 goals, he also guested for Southend United, with 2 appearances and 2 goals in 1940-41, Norwich City, with 29 appearances and top scored with 20 goals in 1939-40, including 4 goals versus Tottenham Hotspur on 16 December 1939, 25 appearances and top scored again with 12 goals in 1940-41, scoring 4 goals versus Aldershot on 14 December 1940 followed by 6 goals versus Brighton & Hove Albion on 25 December 1940, 1 appearance in 1941-42. He played for Norwich City with 29 appearances and 20 goals in 1939-40 and 5 appearances, with 5 appearances and 0 goals in 1940-41.

In the 1945-46 he also made 4 reserve appearances for Ipswich with 3 goals and in 1946-47 he netted 26 reserve appearances with 17 goals.

He also made 6 League appearances for Norwich City with 2 goals in 1946-47. In July 1947, he joined Bristol Rovers, making 6 League appearances, scoring once. He moved to Street FC in August 1948, retiring the following year.

He died in Bristol, 18 September 1987 aged seventy-three.

Chadwick made 1 wartime guest appearance for O's in 1939, in the first home match after the commencement of World War Two, a 1-6 defeat to Arsenal on 29 October 1939.

Alfred George CHALKLEY

Full back Alfie Chalkley was born in Plaistow, London, 16 August 1904. He won an England Schoolboy cap against Scotland played at Liverpool in 1917.

He joined West Ham United on amateur forms in May 1931, making 188 League appearances for the Hammers, scoring once. His only goal was an intended clearance from the penalty area, the ball caught the wind and flew into the Manchester City net past the startled goalie Len Langford on 2 March 1932. His final League game came on 7 November 1936, a 5-0 defeat at Fulham.

He also made 65 wartime appearances for the Hammers with a single goal between 1939 and 1944. He was the older brother of George, another Hammers player normally at centre half.

He represented the London FA against Belgium team Diables Rouges and also made 3 London Combination appearances for the Hammers. During the war years he appeared for the Hammers against O's on nine occasions including an O's 8-1 defeat on 12 April 1941. He died in Norwich, 11 June 1971, aged sixty-six.

Chalkley made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1944.

Wilfred Sidney CHITTY

Wilf Chitty was born Walton-on-Thames, Wednesday, 10 July 1912. The 5ft 10in outside left started his playing career with non-league sides Wycombe Wanderers and then Woking between 1928 and 1930, before joining Chelsea in March 1930, making 44 League appearances and scored 16 goals with a single appearance in the FA Cup. He joined Plymouth Argyle in December 1938, making just 3 Football League appearances with 1 goal over the Christmas period.

Chitty was exempt from military service but still finished up in hospital in August 1944 after being injured during an 'Doodleburg' bomb attack when a bomb fell near his Caversham home, he returned and played two more seasons for Reading. He made a total of 221 wartime appearances for Reading, scoring 46 goals between 1939 and 1946.

He made a further 23 League appearances for Reading with 7 goals in 1946-47. Chitty was known for scoring goals direct from corner kicks and also converted a number of penalties. In 1994 he was a youth coach with West Ham United.

Chitty died in Surrey, Sunday 2 February 1997 aged eighty-four.

Chitty made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1942-43.

Joseph Thomas Henry CLARK

Joe Clark was born in Bermondsey, London, Tuesday, 2 March 1920, he started off with the Erith & Belvedere club and then with a number of clubs in Kent.

The 5ft 9in and 11st 5lb rugged full back joined O's from Gravesend & Northfleet in February 1946. After the war, he made 19 first team appearances for O's in 1946-47. He declined O's offer of a new contract due to working in the family business in Ramsgate. He then made 71 appearances for Margate between 1947 and 1949, ending his career with Ramsgate, before retiring in 1957. He died in a Broadstairs nursing home, in Kent, Thursday, 31 January 2008.

Clark made 12 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46, including a 0-3 defeat to Southend United on 30 March 1946.

Reginald Leonard CLARKE

Right half and inside forward Reg or Nobby Clarke, as he was mostly known, was born in the Heavitree, Seaton, Devon, 4 September 1907. He attended the Ladysmith School which won the Devon County Shield in 1920-21 and he was close to representing England Schools but never got picked.

He started his playing career in local football with Hems Athletic, Exter Loco, Friernhay and Southern Railway before joining Exeter City in 1927 and over the following eight seasons he made 315 League appearances, scoring 18 goals (4 pens), and 23 FA Cup appearances with 1 goal. He featured in their run to the quarter finals of the FA Cup in 1931, before losing to Sunderland in a replay.

In September 1933 he was awarded a benefit match against top-tier side Leicester City, but despite a long and distinguished career with Exeter he left them in 1936 after he became landlord of The Volunteer Inn at Ottery St Mary, in his contract it stated that no player was allowed to be involved in the licensing trade while playing for the club and so he had to leave.

He moved to Aldershot, making 63 League appearances with 3 goals up to 1939. He made 1 guest WW2 appearance for Adershot in 1939-40 and 20 appearances with 1 goal for Torquay United during the same season. He also appeared as a 'guest' for Leeds United on 2 May 1942 against Chesterfield.

After his retirement from football he became landlord of The Kings Arms in Seaton and was still there some twenty years later in 1958, as well being a club official of Seaton Town Football Club. He died in Seaton during 1981.

Clarke made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1943-44, scoring a single goal, in an 8-2 defeat at Reading on 30 October 1943.

Harold COLLIER

A local half back, Harry Collier who was a junior player with the O's, making 1 Wartime appearance for West Ham United on 19 April 1941 at Clapton Orient, a 3-2 win to the Hammers before 1000 spectators.

He was a Serjeant-pilot with the RAF and was stationed in India during 1944.

Collier made 4 wartime appearances for O's. He made 1 appearance in 1939-40 and 2 League and 1 London Cup 'B' Division appearances in 1940-41.

Harold Henry COLLIN

A local amateur player, Harry Collin (his name was also shown as Cellin) made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1940-41.

William Hanna COLLINS

Wing half Bill 'Buster' Collins was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, 15 February 1920. As a youngster he worked as an apprentice welder at the Harland & Wolf Shipyards in Belfast.

He commenced his playing career with Belfast Celtic in 1942, moving to Distillery in 1945. He joined Luton Town in February 1948, making 7 League appearances. He moved to Gillingham during October 1949 and played a further 13 matches. In 1951 he was with Snowden Colliery Welfare, staying for five years.

In 1975, he was caretaker-manager at Gillingham and acted as head of youth, coach, kitman with the Gills until his retirement in 1993, aged seventy-three.

Gillingham held a testimonial for him on 7 August 1992 against Manchester United before a crowd of 8 372, the Gills won 1-0. He has been cited as a major influence in the careers of both Micky Adams and Steve Bruce.

Collins died in Gillingham, 3 November 2000, aged ninety.

Collins made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46

Bernard David COLLOFF

Winger Bernard Colloff (Sometimes listed as Coloff or Colliff), who was born in West Ham, London during 1925, making 15 wartime appearances with O's in 1944-45, scoring twice against Watford in a 4-4 draw on 7 October 1944. He also played at Fulham on 28 October 1944 when listed as Colliff, a 5-2 defeat and against West Ham United a 1-0 defeat on 31 March 1945 and a 1-1 draw with Crystal Palace on April 14, 1945.

He also appeared for the reserve side, including in a 13-0 victory over Brentford reserves, with 1 goal, on 16 December 1944.

Harold Thomas COTHLIFF

Right-half Harry Cothliff, also spelt as Cothliffe, was born in Liverpool, Friday, 24 March 1916. After spells with the Presscot Cables Works Team, he had unproductive spells with both Manchester City from January 1936 and

Nottingham Forest from January 1937, the inside forward made his League debut with Torquay United, making a total of 65 appearances with 1 goal between June 1938 and May 1947. Cothliff, made 67 Wartime appearances for Reading between 1939 and 1943 with 16 goals.

He also made 4 wartime appearances for Torquay United in 1939-40 and 16 appearances with 2 goals in 1945-46, he made 1 appearance for Portsmouth in 1939-40 and 1 appearance with 1 goal for Brighton & Hove Albion in May 1940, 1 appearance for Fulham in 1939-40 and 1 appearance for Chelsea in 1942-43 and 15 appearances with 2 goals for Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic in 1945-46 and 3 appearances for Millwall in 1944-45. In June 1947 he moved to Dartmouth United and also played for Ifracombe Town.

Cothliff died in New Zealand during 1976, aged sixty.

Cothliff made 15 wartime appearances for O's with 2 goals. 1 appearance in 1943-44 and 14 appearances with 2 goals in 1944-45

Stanley Thomas COUSINS

The Brentford registered player, Stan Cousins, who made a single appearance for the Bees in 1940-41 also made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

Edmund Charles CRAWFORD

Ted Crawford was born in Filey, a fishing village in North Yorkshire, Wednesday, 31 October 1906. He started with Filey Town in 1922 and then played for both Scarborough Town and Scarborough Penguins, before returning to Filey Town in 1928, scoring a remarkable 141 goals from just 73 North Riding League appearances between 1929-1930. He had a trial with Fulham but got himself lost in finding Craven Cottage and returned home an unhappy lad. He did sign for Halifax Town in July 1931 and one-year he later signed for Liverpool on 24 May 1932 for £1 200 but after scoring 4 goals from just 7 league appearances, he joined O's on 11 July 1933.

The big, tough and strong 5ft 10½in and 12st 7lb centre forward was O's hotshot striker in the thirties, netting 73 senior goals, with some fierce shooting, from 218 first team appearances between 1935 and 1939. He was a regular for a number of seasons in the wartime Regional Leagues'. Whilst serving in the Far East. He also made one appearance each for both Hull City and Watford and then 6 wartime appearances and 2 goals for Brighton & Hove Albion in 1944-45.

After retiring from playing he went onto have a long coaching career in Europe with Bologna in Italy, 1952-53, Livorno, Italy, 1953-54, AEK Athens, Greece in 1954, returning home to coach Barnet in 1956-7 and then he scouted for Crewe Alexandra in 1957-58, In May 1958, he left football and worked as a storeman in Hendon, where he died on Tuesday, 13 December 1977, aged seventy-one.

Crawford made 53 wartime appearances, scoring 9 times. He made 34 League and 2 London Cup 'B' Division appearances with 6 goals in 1941-42, 15 appearances with 2 goals in 1942-43 and 2 appearances with 1 goal in 1943-44

Frederick CROSS

Freddy Cross, a local amateur inside forward made 3 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45, scoring 1 goal against Millwall in a 3-2 victory in November 1944. He also played at West Ham United on 31 March 1945 in a 1-0 defeat before 8 000 spectators.

CRYSTAL

He was a junior player in 1940-41.

Reginald Horace CUMNER

Horace Cumner was born Cwmaman, Glamorgan, Wales, 31 March 1918, the 5ft 8in and 10st 10lb outside left had a long and distinguished career that started as a youth player with both Swansea Town juniors and Aberaman Athletic juniors, where he won Welsh School caps.

He moved from Aberaman to Arsenal's groundstaff on amateur forms in May 1935, making his League debut for the Gunners away to Wolverhampton Wanderers in September 1938, scoring the only goal of the game. He went onto make 12 League appearances with 2 goals, 1 FA Cup appearance against West Ham United on 9 January 1946 with 1 goal and 1 Charity Shield appearance, a 2-1 win over Preston North End before 35 000 Highbury fans on 26 September 1938. He played matches when available for Arsenal during the war years, making 24 appearances with 5 goals between 1941 and 1946.

He first went on loan to Southern League Margate for two seasons scoring 43 goals from 80 outings between 1936 and 1938. He also went on loan to Hull City in January 1938, scoring 4 goals from 12 League appearances.

Cumner made 7 appearances and 2 goals for Arsenal's Southern League side (one step down from the reserves) in 1938-39 and 25 wartime appearances for the Gunners and 1 appearance in the FA Cup. Cumner also played 10 wartime internationals for Wales, scoring 3 goals, his debut came in a 4-2 victory against England and his final appearance came against Ireland. He also won 3 full Welsh caps in the 1938-39 Home Championship.

Even though he was seriously burned whilst serving in the Royal Marines, he still made guest appearances with Fulham 2 appearances with 0 goals in 1941-42, Liverpool making 15 appearances with 3 goals in 1944-45, Greenock Morton, Plymouth Argyle (2 appearances in in March 1946), Portsmouth, 9 appearances with 1 goal in 1943-44, Port Vale, 7 appearances with 1 goal in 1945-46 and Swansea Town with 1 appearances and 0 goals in 1939-40

He moved to Notts. County (67 League appearances with 11 goals) then Watford, in July 1948 for £2 200, with 62 League appearances with 7 goals and 4 FA Cup appearances and 0 goals, Scunthorpe & Lindsay United in September 1950 for £750 (102 League appearances with 21 goals) and

Bradford City in August 1953, Poole Town of the Western League in July 1954 before ending his professional career with Bridport of the Dorset Combination League in 1955, before ending his playing career as player-manager with Swanage Town in 1957.

He made 254 career League appearances between 1936 and 1953. Cumner died in Poole, Dorset, 18 January 1999, aged eighty.

Cumner made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46, it came on 23 February 1946, on the left wing against Walsall, a 1-0 defeat which attracted a 10 000 Brisbane Road crowd.

George Edward CURTIS

Curtis was born in Orsett, Grays, Essex, 3 December 1919. He started off with the Anglo Club of Purfleet before joining Arsenal in December 1936 and was with the Gunners right up to the 1946-47 season, making 13 League appearances plus 1 appearance in the FA Cup.

He joined Arsenal's nursery club Margate in April 1937, scoring his first goal in a 5-2 victory over Canterbury Waverley in the Kent Senior Shield on 9 September 1937, after making 24 appearances with 5 goals Curtis returned to Highbury in February 1938, making his League debut against Blackpool on 10 April 1939. During the WW2 he served in the RAF in India.

He made 3 wartime appearances for Brighton & Hove Albion in 1941-42. He also played for West Ham United in WW2 fixtures, his scoring debut came in a 6-1 victory over O's on 16 December 1939, and he went on to make a further 15 appearances with 1 more goal. He also scored 3 goals from 36 WW2 appearances for Arsenal whilst also guesting for Chelsea with 3 appearances in 1943-44.

The skilful, nimble and elegant 5ft 8in inside forward joined Southampton in an exchange transfer for Tom Rudkin during August 1947 and stayed for six years making 174 League appearances with 11 goals and 9 FA Cup games scoring once.

In 1948, he coached the Indian Olympic football team. In 1952 he joined French Second Division side Valenciennes for a fee of £1 500 staying for one year before returning to England as player-coach with Chelmsford City.

He joined Walter Winterbottom as a senior coach at Lilleshall until 1957 when he took over as coach with Sunderland. In June 1961 he was appointed manager of Brighton & Hove Albion until leaving in February 1963.

He was then coach at Cambridge University and Hastings before taking over during January 1964 as manager of Stevenage Town after a three-year spell when he had spells as coach with Hull City and San Diego Toros in America.

In 1969 he was appointed head coach of Norwegian side Rosenborg, winning the League title in his first season but he was dismissed at the end of the

following season. In 1972 he was coach of the Norway national team during the Euro 72 qualifying campaign. In a match against Holland in November 1972 they lost 9-0. Out of seventeen games in charge they managed three wins and he was sacked in June 1974.

In July 1976 he was head coach again at Rosenborg, but he was in a car crash in which his Norwegian wife died, and he was released from his contract in August. His final coaching job was in Qatar between 1979 and 1981.

He retired to live in Basildon, Essex where he coached kids as part of a FIFA coaching scheme. He spent his final years living on his own in a caravan in a Chelmsford trailer park before moving to Basildon.

He died in Basildon, Essex, 17 November 2004, aged eight -four.

Curtis made 7 wartime appearance for O's, 1 appearance in 1941-42 and 6 appearances in 1942-43 including one at inside left against Queens Park Rangers on 20 March 1943.

[John James DANIELS](#)

Born in Kent during 1915, the inside forward started his career with both Bexley FC and Bexleyheath before joining Millwall in 1935. He made 25 League appearances for the Lions between 1935 and 1939, scoring 6 goals, with four appearances in their promotion season from Division Three south of 1937-38. He also made 3 FA Cup appearances and played in 7 London Challenge Cup matches with 5 goals. The 24-year old left the Den in 1939 to join the Army and was not seen again in the Football League but joined Gravesend & Northfleet and when he retired from the game, to become a milkman. He also assisted York City in WW2, making 2 appearances in 1945-46 and Millwall in 1944-45 with 1 appearance.

Daniels made 26 wartime appearances for O's between 1943-45 scoring 7 goals. 3 appearances in 1943-44 and 23 appearances with 7 goals (against Watford, Southampton, Millwall, Luton Town, Aldershot, Chelsea and Reading) in 1944-45

[John DAVIE](#)

Jock Davie was born in Dunfermline, Scotland, 19 February 1913. He started his career with Dunfermline Wednesday then onto St. Bernard's and progressed with St. Johnstone, Dunfermline, Hibernian with 3 Scottish League appearances in August 1934, Dundee (trial) and Torquay United (trial) before his spell with Margate in 1935-36 and part of their team that reached the 3rd Round of the FA Cup.

The 5ft 9in and 11st 4lb beefy centre forward moved south of the border joining Arsenal in the 1934-35 season, playing all of his time at Highbury with their nursery club Margate helping them to win the Southern League Central Section and Eastern Section titles as well as the Kent Senior Cup and Kent Senior Shield with his 37 goals in 1935-36 and a further 17 goals from 10 appearances between January and March 1936. He also appeared for them in a

famous 3-1 win over Queens Park Rangers in the FA Cup on 30 November 1935 before 5 783 fans.

He joined Brighton & Hove Albion in May 1936, making 89 League appearances with 39 goals and also 14 FA Cup appearances with 18 goals. He also appeared in 102 wartime appearances for the Seagulls, scoring 81 goals. He netted 2 goals for the Seagulls in the abortive 1939-40 season. In all first team competitions he netted 120 goals for the Seagulls putting him third on their all-time goalscoring chart including eight hat-tricks.

In 1939 he enlisted with the Police Reserve Force and was later an Army PT instructor, reaching the rank of Serjeant.

During the War years he played for Brighton and also guested for a record nineteen different clubs. His record reads:

		Apps	Goals
1939-40	Brighton & Hove Albion	34	24
1940-41	Brighton	6	2
1941-42	Brighton	26	27
1942-43	Brighton	8	5
1943-44	Brighton	2	2
1944-45	Brighton	10	4

He guested for the following clubs:

1940-41	Brentford	21	10
1940-41	Clapton Orient	1	0
1940-41	Reading	3	0
1940-41	Queens Park Rangers	7	4
1941-42	Reading	1	1
1941-42	Queens Park Rangers	2	3
1942-43	Crystal Palace	1	0
1942-43	Fulham	1	0
1942-43	Millwall	2	2
1942-43	Southampton	2	2
1943-44	Aldershot	7	5
1943-44	Charlton Athletic	4	1
1943-44	Leeds United	5	4
1943-44	Sourthampton	7	4
1944-45	Aldershot	1	0
1944-45	Chesterfield	28	19
1945-46	Charlton Athletic	15	10
1945-46	Mansfield Town	1	1
1945-46	Aldershot	1	0
1945-46	Nottingham Forest	7	2
1945-46	Notts County	13	6
1945-46	Sunderland	8	5
1945-46	Manchester United	1	1

After the War in 1946, he returned to Brighton but only played FA Cup games, scoring 6 goals from 8 appearances. Thirty-Three year old Davie moved in August 1946 onto North Eastern League side Stockton, after a five month period with them, he moved back into the Football League with Barnsley on 24 December 1947, making 6 League appearances without scoring.

He then joined Kidderminster Harriers on a free transfer in May 1947 before ending his career with Shrewsbury Town. He died in Shrewsbury during June 1994, aged eighty-one.

Davie made 1 wartime appearance for O's 1940-41

Frederick Alexander DAVIS

Fred Davis was born in Hackney, east London during the third quarter of 1913, due to a shortage of players the 28-year old fast and tricky left winger, called 'twinkle toes' by the fans, guested in one match for O's in October 1941

He originally joined Clapton Orient from Walthamstow Avenue on 24 February 1936, making 2 League appearances. He was offered a pro contract by manager Peter Proudfoot but decided to keep his amateur status and returned to Walthamstow in 1936. His death details could not be located.

Fred Davis made 1 appearance for O's at Crystal Palace on 11 October 1941, a 2-0 defeat.

Albert George DAWES

Forward Bert Dawes was born in Frimley Green, Surrey, 23 April 1907, being the older brother of Fred Dawes. He started off with Northampton Town and between 1929 and 1933 he made 164 League appearances, scoring 82 goals and also made 20 Cup appearances with 21 goals.

He moved to Crystal Palace on Christmas Day 1933 and in the two years at Selhurst Park, he made 105 League appearances, netting 75 goals, including a five-goal haul against Cardiff City on 1 September 1934.

On 4 April 1936 he was selected as a member of the England squad against Scotland at Wembley but as only named 12th man, and so only warmed the stand seat.

In May 1936, he joined Luton Town and during a fifteen month stay he made a further 44 League appearances with 18 goals (one being his only converted penalty of his career). Bert Dawes rejoined Palace in 1937 and scored a further 16 goals from 44 League appearances. In 1939, he made 3 appearances for Aldershot before the start of WW2 and records for the 1939-40 season was expunged from the records books.

During the War years he made 142 appearances for Palace scoring 74 goals and also guested for Aldershot in 1939-40 with 2 appearance and 13

appearances with 3 goals in 1940-41 and a further 4 appearances in 1941-42. He was with Arsenal in 1944-45, making 1 guest appearance.

During his career he proved himself to be a brilliant marksman for both Northampton and Crystal Palace.

He also played in one first-class cricket match for Northamptonshire in 1933, scoring 16 runs in two innings. Bert Dawes died on 23 June 1973 in Goring-by-Sea, Sussex, aged sixty-six years and sixty-one days.

Bert Dawes made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45. He played as an emergency full-back at Watford on 20 January 1945, a 3-0 win, O's only away victory of the season.

Frederick William DAWES

Full Back Fred Dawes (Younger brother of Albert) was also like his brother born in Frimley Green, Surrey on 2 May 1911. He started off his career with local side Frimley Green. In 1927 he was on the books of Aldershot and played in two friendly games against the Army and Clapton Orient.

Soon after, he signed for Northampton Town where he linked up with his brother and played for several seasons, making 162 appearances, scoring once.

In February 1936 he joined Crystal Palace to once again link up with his brother and was soon appointed team captain and upto WW2 he had made 119 League appearances with 2 goals.

During the War years he served as a Special Constable in the Metropolitan Police and later in the Royal Artillery and with Crystal Palace he made 156 appearances with 2 goals and also 1 appearance with 0 goals for Chelsea in 1944-45 and 1 appearance for Brentford in 1944-45, 1 appearance for Reading in 1939-40 and 11 appearances for Queens Park Rangers in 1944-45.

After the war, he returned to Crystal Palace and between 1946 and 1949, made a further 111 League and 7 Cup appearances and is the only player to have made over 100 League appearances either side of WW2. In total he made 237 appearances, scoring 2 goals.

He was a wartime guest player with Hartlepool United in 1943-44 making 5 appearances with 0 goals.

In 1950 after having to retire through injury he became assistant manager at Selhurst Park and was manager with Beckenham F.C, he also ran a sweet shop in Croydon. He died in Shirley, Croydon, 12 August 1989, aged seventy-eight.

Fred Dawes made 3 wartime appearances for O's in 1939-40 and also 2 appearances at Watford on 20 January 1945 and at Millwall on 24 April 1945.

Frederick DELL

Right winger Fred Dell was listed on the teamsheet for the first home match after the commencement of World War One on 29 October 1939, but instead Bob Shankley played and scored in a 1-6 home defeat to Arsenal before 8000 fans. He played regularly over the years for O's reserve London Combination side, including at Luton Town reserves on 13 April 1946 but never made the first team.

Dell was born in Dartford, Kent, 10 December 1915 and started off with Dartford before moving to West Ham United for a reported £2 000 in 1935. He made just 4 League appearances for the Hammers (2 appearances in 1936-37 and also 2 in 1937-38).

In 1938 he and Albert Walker (who made 174 League and Cup appearances for the Hammers) joined Doncaster Rovers in exchange for Arthur Banner, later to star with the O's. He made 29 League appearances with 12 goals and 4 FA Cup appearances with 4 goals for Doncaster Rovers. Dell died in Dartford during 1973.

DENT

Dent was a reserve winger, who played in the 1945-46 season.

John Stephen DEVINE

Inside right John Devine, who was born in Glasgow, Scotland, he started his professional career with St Roch's before joining Aberdeen in March 1936, making 14 'old' Scottish Division One appearances with three goals, his debut coming against St Johnstone in a 3-0 win on 28 March 1936 before 7 000 fans. He came south of the border to sign for Queens Park Rangers in May 1938, making 10 senior appearances with 3 goals, he also made some appearances in the Third Division south Cup in 1938-39. He made 1 wartime appearance for Brighton & Hove Albion in April 1940 and 2 WW2 appearances for Queens Park Rangers in 1939-40.

Devine made 6 wartime appearances for O's between 1939 and 1941. 4 appearances in 1939-40, including a 3-2 win at Tottenham Hotspur on 20 January 1940 and 2 appearances in 1940-41

Albert William Frederick DIAPER

The 5ft 8in and 11st 1lb left half Bertie Diaper was born in Woolston, Southampton, 11 February 1909. In 1928, he started his playing career with Cowes FC, Isle of Wight, where he also became known also as a fine rowing oarsman.

He was signed by Arsenal boss Herbert Chapman but played no League games, spending three years in the reserves. He joined Luton Town in 1932 making 3 League appearances. Diaper joined Fulham in May 1933 making a further 3 League appearances before his release. After a time with Charlton Athletic in May 1935, he had a good run with Aldershot between 1936 and

1938, with 64 League appearances and also made 2 appearances in 1939-40 appearances with 1 goal for Aldershot in the 1940-41 Wartime season. He ended his playing career with Guildford City. A carpenter by trade he took up his old profession after his retirement from playing.

Diaper died in Basingstoke, 25 May 1995, aged eighty-six.

Diaper made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

Michael John DINNEN

Irish born centre forward Mike Dinnen (sometimes also shown as Dinnern) from the Portadown Club, made 6 wartime appearances for O's, scoring 3 goals against Mansfield Town, when on debut on 25 August 1945, Southend United and Walsall all in 1945-46.

Dinnen was born in Carrickfergus in County Antrim, Northern Ireland, eleven miles from Belfast and played for Dundalk reserves and Ballyclare Comrades. At the end of May 1946, he returned to Belfast to sign for Carrick Rangers.

Leonard DOBSON

Local amateur left half Len Dobson made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46. In February 1946 he went on trial with Ramsgate and signed a contract with them.

Ephraim 'Jock' DODDS

Ephraim Dodds, he used the first name Jock as he wanted to emphasise his Scottish roots, was born in Grangemouth, Stirlingshire, Scotland, 7 September 1915, he started his junior career with his local school Bargeddie Public School. When his mother remarried, they moved to Durham in 1927 and he continued his footballing career with Shellmex and Medomsley Juniors, based in Consett, also winning honours with Durham Schools. He joined the Huddersfield Town groundstaff as a sixteen year old in 1931 and signed pro forms the following year but played only reserve football.

He was pacy for a big man, he stood 6ft and weighed 14st 8lb, yet only took a sized six boot.

In May 1934, he joined Sheffield United on a free transfer and the big bustling centre forward, soon hit the headlines, going onto score 114 goals from 178 League appearances between 1934 and 1939.

He played for Sheffield United in the 25 April 1936 FA Cup Final, a 1-0 loss to Arsenal, a goal scored by Ted Drake on 74 minutes, before a 93 384 Wembley crowd.

On 10 March 1939, he joined Blackpool for a fee of £10 000 earning £6 per week plus an extra £2 when he played for the first team.

He netted 3 goals from the three games played in the suspended 1939-40 season, in which all playing records were expunged from the record books.

During the war he played for Blackpool, netting a remarkable 230 goals from just 157 appearances including the fastest recorded hat-trick on record at the time, which was entered into the Guinness Book of Records in two and half minutes against Tranmere Rovers on 28 February 1942 and went onto score 7 goal in a 15-3 victory, the following week against Burnley he netted 5 goals in a 13-0 win. He also made 4 guest appearances with 5 goals for Manchester United in 1940-41.

He represented Scotland 9 times with 9 goals over the war-years, including a hat-trick against England at Hampden Park in a 5-4 victory on 9 April 1942 before 135 000 fans.

During 1944, he was stationed down south by the RAF as a drill sergeant and PE Instructor, and as well as making a single appearance for the O's in 1945 and is remembered with fondness by two O's fans who attended the match, Ronnie Lambert and William Stephen Linnell who remember him with big shoulders and built like an ox with thick black hair and was a real bustling centre forward.

He also played for Brentford (3 appearances), West Ham United (Sept to Dec 1944 with 10 appearances and 11 goals, including 2 in a 3-0 win at Clapton Orient on 4 November 1944) and Fulham during December 1944 and January 1945 with 10 goals from 9 appearances.

After the War he returned to Blackpool, got married and set up a business, but he left the club after a dispute over wages and turned out for Shamrock Rovers in Dublin, Ireland during August 1946, being offered £200 per week, scoring twice on debut, but after a couple of games the FIFA set up an investigation and Dodds was eventually ordered to return to Blackpool, which he did.

He then joined Everton in November 1946 for a fee of £8 250 and played a total of 58 League and Cup games, scoring 37 goals after two years at Goodison he was transferred in October 1948 to Lincoln City for a then club record £6 000, scoring twice on debut at Grimsby Town and ended the season on 17 goals from 24 games and the following season he netted a further 21 goals from 36 appearances, his final goal came in May 1950 at the age of 34 years and 242 days, making a total of 62 League appearances with 38 goals.

In the summer of 1950, he became involved in what was known as 'The Bogota Affair', when he was signed up as an agent for the Millionarios club to sign up UK players to play in Columbia against the FA's wishes. Jock Dodds was suspended in July 1950 from playing in the Football League for life by FA for bringing the game into disrepute.

He returned to live in Blackpool to run a number of businesses, including a hotel, three nightclubs in Fleetwood and Blackpool, the most famous being The Horseshoe Club, he was the first to import fruit 'gambling' machines into Britain, he also owned a nut wholesale business and a famous Blackpool rock-making factory. On his retirement he lived in nearby Lytham St Annes.

He did play in several charity games and even played for Lytham St Annes in the Lancashire League as late as September 1959. In April 2006 he was inducted into the Blackpool Hall Of Fame.

He settled in Blackpool and died in the Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, Friday, 24 February 2007, aged ninety-one.

William DODGIN Snr

Bill Dodgin was born in Gateshead, County Durham, Saturday, 12 April 1909, the 5ft 10½in and 12st 4lb wing half started his senior career with Huddersfield Town in October 1929, making 20 league appearances. After spells with Lincoln City, Charlton Athletic and Bristol Rovers, making over 100 appearances, he joined O's in July 1937. He made 6 Wartime appearances with 1 goal for Millwall in 1944-45.

He had been a regular for in O's League side, being made team captain, between 1937 and May 1939 with 62 League appearances before joining Southampton in May 1939. During the Waryears with Southampton, making 86 WW2 appearances with 2 goals between 1939 and 1946 when he retired.

He guested for one season with O's when stationed in the East End of London and was given permission by Southampton to play. He went on to have a long and distinguished managerial career with Fulham, Brentford, Sampdoria in Italy, Bristol Rovers before retiring in 1979, to become Rovers chief scout.

His best achievement during his managerial career was when taking Charlton Athletic from Division Three south to the top tier of English football in a few seasons.

His son Bill Dodgin jnr, also had a long spell and a player and manager, he died eight months after his father, in June 2000, aged sixty-eight.

Dodgin snr died in the Robertson Nursing Home, Godalming, Surrey, Saturday, 16 October 1999, aged ninety.

Dodgin Snr, made 26 wartime appearances for O's, scoring twice in 1942-43, one in a 2-2 draw against Luton Town on 24/10/1942 and the other, in a 4-3 win against Watford on 23/1/1943.

Gordon DREYER

The 5ft 11in and 11st 7lb half back, Gordon Dreyer was born in Whitburn, Sunderland, 1 June 1914, he started his career with St. Mary's Juniors and was then with Whitburn St Mary's and Washington Colliery as an amateur. In October 1932, he was on the books of Bolton Wanderers.

He moved to Hartlepoons United in June 1934, making 41 League appearances, 4 FA Cup appearances and 3 appearances in the Division Three North Cup. The following season he was with Hull City on trial, making 5 League appearances between August and September 1935.

Dreyer returned to Hartlepoons United in the 1936-37 season, making a further 26 League appearances and between May 1937 and June 1938, he made 26 League appearances with Luton Town, also making 18 WW2 appearances in 1939-40, 10 appearances in 1940-41, 8 appearances in 1940-41, 20 appearances in 1942-43 with 0 goals. He made 3 wartime appearances for Watford in 1942-43.

After the war, he joined the non-league ranks with Cheltenham and Bedford Town in 1946, making 28 appearances with 0 goals. He he later played for Gravesend & Northfleet, ending his career with Rushden Town.

He died in Luton, 6 February 2003, aged eighty-eight.

Dreyer made 6 wartime appearances for O's in 1943-44, including one match playing centre half at Crystal Palace on 4 December 1943 and on 11 December at Queens Park Rangers.

[John George DRYDEN](#)

Jackie Dryden was born in Sunderland, Tuesday, 16 September 1919. He represented Sunderland Boys versus Seaham Colliery Welfare, moving to Charlton Athletic during March 1938, making 1 wartime appearance for them in 1939, 5 appearances with 1 goal in 1940-41 and 5 appearances with 2 goals in 1941-42 and 15 appearances with 11 goals in 1942-43. He also made 1 guest appearance for Plymouth Argyle in 1945, whilst serving with the forces.

The fast, attacking right winger appeared for O's in the League between June 1948, signed from Swindon Town in exchange Johnny Baynham, and May 1950 when he was released. He once netted a brace of goals in two consecutive 5-2 home victories against Exeter City and Newport County in October and November 1948.

He previously appeared for O's in wartime Regional games between 1941 and 1943 as a guest player. After his spell with O's and then Tonbridge, he then played for Snowdown Colliery Welfare, before going to Margate in October 1952, making three appearances for them before joining Sittingbourne in July 1953. He later became the Kent scout for Burnley.

Dryden died in Eastbourne, east Sussex, Saturday, 3 April 2000, aged eighty-five.

Dryden made 26 wartime appearances with 8 goals. He made 15 appearances with 4 goals in 1941-42, including 1 goal in a 5-3 defeat at West Ham United on 11 April 1942 and 11 appearances with 4 goals in 1942-43

Jack John Henry DUGNOLLE

Born in Peshawar, India, 24 March 1914, Dugnoille, after the family's return to Britain they settled in Sussex. The right half started his playing career before WW2 with Hove FC and then Southwark (Sussex) FC before moving to Brighton & Hove Albion, making 8 senior appearances between October 1934 and May 1938. In June 1938, he joined Tunbridge Wells Rangers, this after a spell with Plymouth Argyle in 1938-39, making 4 appearances with 0 goals.

He also made 21 WW2 appearances with 1 goal for Watford in seasons 1941-42 (7 apps) and 1942-43 (14apps) and 2 appearances for Brighton in 1941-42 and 1945-46 and 1 appearance for Charlton Athletic in 1942-43. He worked in the Plymouth Dockyards for a few years and made 14 appearances with 1 goal for Plymouth Argyle in 1939-40 and 6 appearances in 1945-46.

Dugnolle returned to Brighton at the age of thirty-two during August 1946, making a further 59 League appearances during his two-year stay at the Goldstone.

In later years he was player-coach with both Worthing and Horsham (1952-53, he also wrote a football manual called '*Soccer Simplified*')

He died in Shoreham, Sussex, 31 August 1977, aged sixty-three.

Dugnoille, whilst being registered with Plymouth Argyle, made 32 wartime appearances for O's, making 27 appearances with 1 goal against Portsmouth in 1944-45 and 5 appearances in 1945-46.

DUNNETT

He was a reserve full-back in 1940-41.

EATON

A local amateur played with the surname of Eaton made 1 appearance for O's in the London Cup 'B' Division during 1940-41.

Leonard EDWARDS

A centre half, Len Edwards, a former Fulham reserve player who was also with Reading making 1 league appearance in 1939. He netted 4 goals for the reserve side in 1942-43. He also made 1 WW2 appearance in 1941-42

Edwards made 1 wartime appearance for O's on 11 October 1941, a 2-0 defeat at Crystal Palace.

Matthew ELLIS

Ellis, a Welsh Amateur international from Holywell and serving in the Navy on the south coast of England led the O's attack versus Queens Park Rangers on 28 November 1941, having been recommended to the club and without any O's official having watched him previously play. It was his only game.

John ELLIS

The 6ft 2in and 12st 5lb goalkeeper John, also known as Jack Ellis was between the sticks for the 3 League matches for the start of the 1939-40 season before it was stopped due to the outbreak of WW2, eventually the season was cancelled and all players and club records were expunged.

Ellis was born 25 January 1908 in Tyldesley, Lancashire. He started his with his local clubs Tyldesley United and Tyldesley Juniors. He then played for Atherton and Winsford United. He joined West Bromwich Albion on amateur forms and stayed at the Hawthorns between May and June 1930.

In February 1931, he joined Wolverhampton Wanderers and played half the season when Wolves won the Second Division title in 1932-33. After making a total of 26 League appearances he moved to Bristol Rovers on 27 July 1934 and during a three-year stay he made 86 League appearances, winning the Third Division (South) Cup in April 1935 when Watford were defeated in the Final.

It's a shame that Ellis is best remembered by football historians for conceding twelve goals, ten of the goals to Joe Payne, still a Football League record for the most goals in a League game, in Rovers 12-0 thrashing at Luton Town on Easter Monday 1936, because he was throughout his career a confident and capable goalkeeper.

He sustained a few serious injuries during his stay with Rovers including a broken collar bone in January 1935 and another serious injury at Crystal Palace in February 1936 which led to full back Bill Pickering having to take over in goal. He made 86 League appearances, 10 FA Cup appearances, 5 Division Three south appearances and 2 Gloucestershire Cup appearances with Rovers.

On 27 May 1938 he joined Hull City and the following January, he was in the Hull side that defeated Carlisle United 11-1 and went on to make 43 League, 2 FA Cup, 1 Division Three North Cup and 1 Jubilee Cup appearances before the War.

In July 1939 he moved to Clapton Orient but during the war years he was a policeman who also played as a guest for Rochdale with 2 appearances in 1939-40, Stockport County 2 appearances 1944-45 and Wrexham for whom he conceded 40 goals in just 9 appearances in 1941-42.

On 10 November 1945 he joined Bath City making 3 appearances and later he played for Stalybridge Celtic and joined Mossley making 6 appearances in the 1946-47 season.

In 1947 he was appointed player-manager of Winsford United and in later years he acted as a scout for Leeds United. On his retirement he lived at 80 Crawford Avenue Tyldesley, where he died on 20 January 1994, just five days before his eighty-sixth birthday, the same day as Sir Matt Busby.

Ellis made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1941-42

Alexander FARLEY

Alex Farley was born in Finchley, north London, Monday, 11 May 1925, he started with his local club Finchley, before joining Cromwell Athletic in 1944.

The 5ft 11in and 11st 9lb left back joined O's in November 1945 and appeared in both FA Cup ties against Newport Isle of Wight, losing 3-2 on aggregate. He served as a PE instructor in the Irish Guards but never served abroad.

He stayed with O's for two seasons after the war making 18 first team appearances between 1946-48. In October 1949, he signed for Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic. On 2 October 1948 in a reserve match at Arsenal, he badly injured his knee just before half time, he tried to resume after the break but collapsed on the pitch and was not able to play senior football again but in later years he turned out for a number of Kent clubs. In May 2005, he celebrated his eightieth birthday, with his wife Rhona and son Alan in Torre Vieja, Spain, he lived in a flat there and also lived six-months in Bournemouth. He died in the Southampton General Hospital on 23 February 2010, aged eighty-four.

Farley made 9 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46

Kenneth James FENTON

He joined O's from Gainsborough Trinity during April 1946 and played only for the reserve side. He was signed-up for the 1946-47 season, the first League season after the War, making 7 League appearances in the 1946-47 season.

Harold Robert FERRIER

Born in Ratho Village, Midlothian, Scotland, 20 May 1920, the only child of William Anderson and Agnes Marshall Ferrier (nee Peat) and he was brought up in Middle Brae Cottages. Ferrier attended both schools in the village and he won a scholarship to Currie but did not take it up.

Harry Ferrier also played the trombone and joined the Ratho Blue Ribbon Silver Band, his love of music was something he got from his father who played the button melodeon at local dances.

Left full back Harry 'Henry' Ferrier started his career with local amateur side Ratho Park Rangers. He was a great supporter of Heart of Midlothian and it was thought he would sign for them due to his family connections.

As a young man of fourteen after leaving school, he was found work by his father, dressing stones for footpaths in Whinstone Quarry.

He started off his English footballing career with Barnsley in September 1937, making a single appearance in the FA Cup but was a regular in their reserve side

When War intervened, and he was called up the Royal Artillery in Redcar whilst being registered to Huddersfield Town and later Middlesbrough with whom he made 1 appearance in 1941-42

He was later stationed in Woolwich and represented the Royal Artillery (Woolwich) in an 8-2 victory over the Royal Engineers (London) on 7 February 1945, a match played at Craven Cottage, Fulham. He also guested for the Army and for a number of southern based clubs including, Watford, 2 appearances in 1942-43,

1 appearance for Reading in 1942-43, Arsenal in 1944-45 with 3 appearances. In 1945-46 he made 2 appearances for Brentford, 1 appearance for Tottenham Hotspur in 1945-46 and 11 appearances for Portsmouth in 1945-46, West Ham United, 1 appearance on 13 January 1945, a 5-4 win over Brighton & Hove Albion. He also made 4 appearances for Barnsley, and a further 14 appearances for Millwall in 1943-44.

In February 1946, he signed for Portsmouth who paid £1 000 for his services and he played a major part in Pompey's run to the League championship in successive seasons 1948-49 and 1949-50. He remained at Fratton Park until 1954, making 241 League appearances with 8 goals (Also 17 Cup appearances with 1 goal. of his nine goals, seven were penalties and two long-range free kicks).

One of his proudest moments was when he received his Championship medal from Pompey President, Field-Marshal Montgomery of El Alamein.

He toured many countries with Portsmouth, playing in France, Germany, Norway and Sweden. He also toured Brazil with a horror forty-five hour flying trip to get there. In 1948, he met his wife-to-be Mary Ivy Moulton, they were later married having three children Harry, Stephen and Sheena.

Ferrier later had spells as player- manager with Gloucester City (1954-59) , making 51 appearances with 2 goals in 1954-55 and 18 appearances with 3 goals in 1955-56 and Chelmsford City for ten-years (1959-63 and 1966-69), winning the Southern League title in 1967-68. On leaving football, he had a short spell in the commercial department of Essex CCC, he then worked as a crane driver at the Hoffman Ball-Bearing factory and helped to coach their works team.

A keen golfer he often played a round with the famous Bobby Locke and he also played bowls for his local club and country.

Ferrier died at a nursing home in Earles Colne, near Colchester, Essex, 16 October 2002, aged eighty-two.

Ferrier made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46

[Sydney Albert William FIELDUS](#)

Syd Fieldus was born in Romford, Essex, 27 May 1909. The defender started off his career with Brentford before signing for the newly created Southern

League side Colchester United on 3 July 1937, making 19 appearances with 3 goals. The following season he made just a single Southern League appearance. In 1940-41 he did make 15 Wartime appearances for Southend United, scoring 1 goal.

During the War years he helped to keep the club running even though it was dormant and was appointed Secretary - Manager for the 1945-46 season.

He served as a Captain in the Essex Home Guard and was awarded an MBE for his services to the Home Guard on 15 December 1944. After the War he continued to play for Colchester United with his final game coming against Merthyr Tydfil on 19 April 1947, aged 32 years and 327 days with a total of 25 Southern League appearances with 3 goals and part of the Southern League Cup winning team of 1937-38. In May 1947 he was appointed to the backroom staff.

During the War years, Colchester United disbanded, so he started a new club called Colchester Wanderers which lasted until League football returned in 1946 and went back to his duties with Colchester United.

Fieldus died in Colchester during April 1974, just before his sixty-fifth birthday.

Syd Fieldus, made 2 wartime appearance for O's, one in each of the 1940-41 and 1942-43 seasons

FINCH

He was a reserve inside forward in 1940-41.

Alan Nathan FISHER

Local amateur player Alan Fisher made 11 wartime appearances for O's with 1 goal, 2 League and 8 London Cup 'B' Division appearances with 1 goal in 1940-41 and 1 appearance in 1941-42.

Douglas Billy Halbert FLACK

Goalkeeper Doug Flack was born in Staines, Middlesex, Sunday, 24 October 1920, he joined Fulham on amateur forms in October 1935, making his reserve debut at the age of fifteen, after his teacher Bernard Joy recommended him to his old club having previously played for Corinthian reserves.

Flackie, as he was known, joined the RAF in 1942 and saw service in India. He made 2 WW2 guest appearances for West Ham United during December 1939, his debut coming against Tottenham Hotspur. He made further guest appearances for both Brighton & Hove Albion with 1 appearance in January 1940 and Portsmouth with 3 appearances in 1940-41. He also made 7 WW2 appearances for Fulham in 1940-41.

He did not make his Fulham League debut until October 1948 and went onto make 54 League appearances between 1948 and 1952.

He once injured his shoulder when he dived trying to stop a stray dog entering the pitch, he missed the dog and had to be stretchered off for the final few minutes.

In August 1953, he moved to Walsall, making 11 League appearances. He became coach to Corinthian Casuals who under his leadership reached the FA Amateur Cup Final in 1956.

In June 1956 he also managed Tooting & Mitcham for six years. He later worked for an aircraft instrument company until his retirement to Surrey.

He died in Purley, south London, 18 October 2005, aged eighty-five.

Flack made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1939-40

[Alan Frederick FLETCHER](#)

Fletcher was born in Pendleton, Clitheroe, 28 October 1917. As a twenty-year old, he was with both Blackpool in January 1937 and Port Vale. In 1938 the inside forward he joined Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic making 12 League appearances without finding the net. In 1939 he moved to Bristol Rovers and played in three matches leading up to the start of WW2, which were expunged from the record books.

Fletcher was registered with Bristol Rovers during WW2 and guested for them with 3 appearances in 1939-40 before they disbanded during the War years. After the war he made 1 League appearance for Crewe Alexandra in early 1947 before joining Mossley as player-coach and stayed for two years making 54 appearances with 3 goals before being appointed as player-coach to Irish side Sligo Rovers. In August 1950 he returned to Cheshire League side Mossley as player-coach and then manager, making a further 43 appearances with 1 goal until being fired in May 1951 with a record of P48 W12 D6 L30. His final game was a shock 2-1 defeat in the Manchester Challenge Shield Final to Lancashire Steel.

He died in Leigh during 1984, aged sixty-seven.

Alan Fletcher made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1940-41, an 8-1 defeat at West Ham United on 12 April 1941.

[Charles FLETCHER](#)

Charlie Fletcher was born in Homerton, east London, Saturday, 28 October 1905. He actually started his career with O's as a seventeen-year-old whilst working as a timber grinder but did not get a first team chance and moved onto Crystal Palace, making 7 league appearances. After a spell in Wales with Merthyr Town, he rejoined O's on 30 July 1930

The big 5ft 11in and 11st 12lb centre forward, famed for his powerful shooting, blossomed with O's, netting 34 goals from 126 first team appearances between 1930 and 1933. He was sold to Brentford in June 1933

and was a member of their Division Two title winning team in May 1935. He later played for Burnley, with 62 appearances and 21 goals. During the war years, he was a lorry driver and then a foreman in a munitions factory.

His League career spanned some eleven-years, scoring 94 goals from 330 appearances. He died in Hither Green Hospital, Lewisham, south London from cancer on Friday, 22 August 1980, aged seventy-four.

Fletcher, who re-joined O's from Ipswich Town in October 1939 made 85 wartime appearances for O's with 21 goals between 1939 to 1946, which were broken down as follows: 30 appearances with 6 goals in 1939-40, 12 League and 8 London Cup 'B' Division appearances with 7 goals in 1940-41, 24 appearances with 6 goals in 1941-42, 9 appearances with one goal in 1942-43 and 2 appearances with 1 goal in 1945-46

Trevor FORD

Legendary forward Trevor Ford was born in Swansea, Wales, Monday, 1 October 1923. Ford was a Welsh international, scoring a then record of 23 goals from 38 internationals between 1946 and 1956. He was fiery, uncompromising and explosive centre forward.

At the age of ten and a half he was the youngest player to have been chosen for Swansea Schools and he kept his place for four-years. He was deprived of a Wales Schools cap after breaking his ankle, but he was later capped at cricket. After leaving school he worked at Mannesman Steel Works in Landore.

He started off his playing career with Swansea City, joining their groundstaff in May 1942 and soon became known as the terrorist in the penalty area who would love to barge goalkeepers over the goal line, which was legal in his day, even though at 5ft 10in and 12st 2lb. he generally conceded height and weight to most goalkeepers.

He was conscripted in 1943 and served as a physical training instructor in the Royal Artillery. After the War he re-joined Swansea Town with great success. netting 41 goals in 1945-46. On 4 May 1946, when on the books of Swansea Town, he won a full Welsh cap, a 0-1 defeat to Northern Ireland.

After a spell with Aston Villa, signing for £12 000, between 1947 and 1950, scoring 60 goals in 120 League appearances, he moved to Sunderland in October 1950, the first £30 000 transfer fee in British football and smashed 67 League goals (6 pens), from 108 games and 3 FA Cup goals from 9 appearances.

He then moved onto Cardiff City in December 1953, after three years with the Welshmen, he had hit another 39 goals from 96 League matches, Ford went to play in Holland for PSV Eindhoven in 1956 for a £30 000 fee after being suspended by the FA before after an illegal payments investigation, he won a case for reinstatement and ending his League career with lowly Newport

County in July 1960, but made just 8 League appearances, with 3 goals before moving onto Romford.

He scored a total of 174 League goals from 349 appearances. He later ran his own garage business. Ford died in Singleton Hospital, Swansea, Thursday, 29 May 2003, from pneumonia, after a long illness.

Ford made a total of 33 wartime appearances for O's and scored 15 goals, a number in the half-back line. He made 9 appearances with 5 goals in 1943-44 (against Aldershot (twice), Fulham (hat trick)). He played at West Ham United on 10 April 1944, but listed incorrectly on the teamsheet as Lord and in 1944 -45, 24 appearances with 9 goals (against Luton Town (twice), Fulham (twice), Brighton, Southampton, Reading, Arsenal and Reading), In November 1944, when at Orient, he represented the AA Command.

[John Lesley FORDER](#)

John Forder was born in south London, 21 September 1916 and grew up in Goring, along the Thames in Oxfordshire. He was a player registered with Crystal Palace, who was a reserve player before the War. He made 1 wartime appearance for O's at full-back in 1939-40, a 2-7 home defeat against Charlton Athletic on 26 December 1939. He also made 4 appearances for Crystal Palace, 2 in 1941-42 and a further 2 in 1945-46. He died in Reading, Berkshire, during November 1998, aged eighty-two.

[George Alexander FOREMAN](#)

Born in Stepney, east London, 1 March 1914, George Foreman the England Amateur international player, started his career playing for Walthamstow Schools, then he was on amateur forms with both Leyton FC and Walthamstow Avenue. In the 1938 he won an Essex FA Senior Badge for making more than 3 appearances for Essex.

On 18 February 1939, he gained an England Amateur International cap versus Ireland in Cliftonville, Belfast, a 1-0 victory.

The 5ft 9in and 11st 5lb centre forward, who was nicknamed Bunny due to his large front teeth, signed for West Ham United on amateur forms in March 1938 before turning professional the following year. His record with West Ham United during WW2 football was second to none, he netted 188 goals from 234 wartime appearances between March 1939 and May 1946.

He was a member of the West Ham United team that won the Football League War Cup 1-0 over Blackburn Rovers. The final at Wembley Stadium on 8 June 1940 which kicked-off at 6.30pm before 42 300 fans, this despite the fear that London would be bombed by the German Luftwaffe, that never happened.

It was on 34 minutes that Foreman had a fierce shot saved by Blackburn's goalkeeper James Barron, the ball ran out to Sam Small who netted the Hammers winning goal.

He also guested for Tottenham Hotspur (October 1944 to February 1946, making 15 appearances with 12 goals), including in a 4-0 win over Clapton Orient on 18 November 1944 and for Crystal Palace with 1 appearance.

He signed for Spurs on 28 February 1946 for £1 250, on a basic wage of £9 per week. He made 22 reserve 'A' team appearances scoring 10 goals and he also made 9 League appearances with 2 goals.

After the War, the 1946-47 season, he made a further 36 League appearances, scoring 14 goals plus 2 appearances in the FA Cup. He scored Spurs first League goal after the War versus Birmingham City on 31 August 1946.

In 1949 after retiring from playing he was appointed the 'A' team coach at White Hart Lane. He later worked as a store manager with the Harris Lebus Furniture Company in Tottenham.

Foreman died Waltham Forest, 19 June 1969, aged fifty-five.

Foreman made 1 O's appearance with 1 goal against Portsmouth in 1944-45.

[William FOX](#)

Reserve right full back Billy Fox made 1 appearance for the first team , a 1-7 home defeat to Charlton Athletic on Christmas Day 1943 before 2000 spectators, when several players were away on service duty and could not get back to London in time to play.

[FRASER](#)

He was a reserve goalkeeper in 1945-46 and played for the reserves at Southend United on 8 September 1945.

[Ronald A. FRENCH](#)

Ron French an inside forward or full-back who made 2 wartime appearances for O's, with 1 appearance in 1944-45 at Port Vale on 13 October 1945 and a further appearance in 1945-46, he also appeared regularly for the O's reserve side, including a game at Southend United reserves on 8 September 1945 and against Brentford reserves on 16 December 1944, a 13-0 victory.

[Raymond FROOM](#)

The former Southall FC captain and right half Ray Froom was signed by O's manager Willie Hall in October 1945, he played in the 1945-46 season and appeared in the two FA Cup ties against Newport Isle of Wight in November 1945. He also appeared regularly for the reserve side during the 1945-46 season season. He returned to Southall in July 1946.

Froom made 6 wartime appearances, scoring once at Port Vale on 16 March 1946 in a 2-2 draw before 9 000 fans. A month later he got married and went off on his honeymoon and on his return, he had a medical and was awaiting his call-up to join the Army.

[John Frederick FULLBROOK](#)

John Fullbrook was born in Grays, Essex, Monday, 15 July 1918

Right back joined O's in April 1946 from the Royal Navy, he was stationed on HMS Raleigh in Torpoint, Cornwall, making his wartime debut in the Division Three South (North) Cup, a 2-0 win at Northampton Town.

He also made 8 WW2 appearances for Plymouth Argyle in 1945-46. He later played for Dartford, where he played against O's in an FA up tie on 27 November 1948, in a tight 3-2 O's win before their record crowd of 11 017, and Gravesend & Northfleet. Fullbrook died in Grays, during March 1992.

Fullbrook made 5 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46, including in a 2-0 defeat at Watford in the Third division Cup north region on 19 April 1946.

James FULLWOOD

Jimmy Fullwood was born in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, 17 February 1911. The 5ft 11in and 12st 2lb left back started his career with Frickley Colliery in June 1929 before moving to Thorne Colliery of the Central Alliance League in 1932. He joined Tottenham Hotspur on trial in October 1934, signing a professional contract that November and during his three-year stay, he made 34 League appearances with 1 goal, a penalty on 2 November 1935 against Swansea Town in a Second Division fixture and also 1 FA Cup appearance.

He made his first team debut on 1 January 1935 versus Blackburn Rovers and his final appearance was against Sheffield Wednesday on 7 May 1938. He also made 1 FA Cup appearance in the 1935-36 season.

Whilst at White Hart Lane he also made 112 London Combination reserve team appearances, scoring 4 goals.

He was with Reading between 1937 and 1939, making 42 League appearances with 0 goals, he also appeared against O's on 7 January 1939 in a Third Division Cup 2nd round match, Reading winning 4-0 and during WW2, he made 178 wartime appearances for Reading, scoring 1 goal between 1939 and 1946. He appeared for Reading in a London War Cup Final, a 3-2 win over Brentford played at Stamford Bridge on 7 June 1941 before 9 000 spectators.

He made 1 WW2 appearance for Chelsea in 1943-44 and 1 WW2 appearance for Brentford in 1944-45. After the War he joined Canterbury City and captained them during the 1948-49 season.

He died in Wokingham during 1981.

Fullwood made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44.

Albert Lawrence GAGE

Larry Gage, as he was always known, was born in Walthamstow, east London, 10 September 1922. Goalkeeper Gage started his career with Walthamstow Avenue before joining Fulham as an amateur in May 1939.

He was a Paratrooper and guested in WW2 for Stockport County, making 19 appearances in 1944-45 and also in 1944-45 making 19 WW2 appearances for Fulham and 1 appearance with Aldershot in 1943-44. He joined Aldershot in July 1946 making 38 League appearances. On 9 February 1946 he guested for Hereford United playing a Southern Cup match against Bath City, aged twenty-three years, four-months and thirty days before playing in Canada during 1947.

He returned to England in August 1948 as third choice Fulham goalie behind Flack and Hinton, playing 3 League matches. It was over Easter 1939 that he made his League debut when the other two keepers were both injured against Brentford on 23 April, a 2-1 win before 39 149 Craven Cottage fans. He played in one further win, 2-0 over West Ham United and a 1-1 draw at Tottenham Hotspur which helped Fulham gain the Second Division Championship just one point ahead of West Bromwich Albion and two points clear of Southampton.

He moved to Gillingham in June 1950 after their election into the Football League, playing a further 40 League games, he ended his career with Bedford Town from August 1951 making 84 appearances during his two-year stay.

The thirty-one year retired in 1953 to become a publican in Colchester. Gage died in Norwich during May 1996, aged seventy-three.

Gage made a total of 8 wartime appearances in goal for O's between 1939 and 1944. 1 appearance in 1939-40, 3 appearances in 1942-43 and 4 appearances in 1943-44

Patrick GALLACHER

Born in Springburn, Glasgow, Scotland, 9 January 1913, inside forward Pat Gallacher who stood 5ft 10in and weighed 12st 7lb started playing football at his local school St Agnes. In 1927 he represented Scotland Schools versus Ireland.

After leaving school he joined Glasgow amateur side Townhead Benburb, then he went onto Dunoon Athletic, came south of the border to join Millwall, he returned to Scotland to play for Third Lanark. In 1936 he was with Blackburn Rovers where he stayed for two seasons without making the first team.

During the War years he guested for Notts County with 2 appearances in 1940-41, Charlton Athletic with 1 appearance each in 1943-44 and 1944-45, Aldershot, making 9 appearances in 1940-41 and 21 appearances with 6 goals in 1942-43, for Fulham making 29 WW2 appearances with 12 goals in 1941-42 and 3 appearances with 1 goal in 1942-43 and 1 appearance for Brentford in 1942-43. He also made 57 appearances with 13 goals between 1939 and 1946 for Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic and 1 appearance for Millwall in 1943-44.

After the war, in the 1946-47 season, he made 21 League appearances, with 2 goals for Bournemouth and later he was player-manager with Weymouth. He died in Hastings, during June 1983, aged seventy.

Gallacher made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1943-44 including a match against Tottenham Hotspur on 13 November 1943 at O's Osborne Road Ground later re-named Brisbane Road).

Thomas GALLEY

Tom Galley was born in Hednesford, Staffordshire, Wednesday, 4 August 1915, the inside forward started as a youth player with his local side Cannock Town before joining Notts County as an amateur in 1933 playing at centre forward but was soon moved to right-half.

It was whilst with Wolverhampton Wanderers that he came to the fore between April 1934 and 1947, playing in 183 League matches, scoring 41 goals and 21 FA Cup appearances with 8 goals.

During the War he served both in France and Germany with the Royal Artillery. In 1941-42 he made 8 appearances with 2 goals for Watford, in 1942 he captained the Wolves side, playing at centre half, that beat Sunderland in the Wartime League Cup Final over two-legs. The First leg on 23 May 1942 at Roker Park ended 2-2 before 35 000 spectators. The second leg seven days later on 30 May ended with Wolves winning 4-1 before 43 038 Molineux fans. The players, instead of receiving medals received War Savings Certificates.

Although restricted news at the time, some seventy Sunderland fans travelling to the Midlands by train came under attack from machine gun fire from the air from a Nazi plane, they arrived safely in the end to Wolverhampton to tell the tale.

In November 1943, he guested for Leeds United making 4 WW2 appearances and made guest appearances for both Watford with 32 appearances in 1940-41 with 5 goals and 8 appearances with 2 goals in 1941-42 and Aldershot with 2 appearances in 1942-43.

Galley appeared in the FA Cup matches, played for the only time over two-legs, during 1945 for Wolves against Lovells Athletic. Leading 4-2 over the first leg they trounced the Welsh side 8-2 in the second leg with Galley netting the only hat-trick of his career.

He made a total of 71 WW2 appearances for Wolves with 6 goals between 1939 and 1946.

Galley represented the Football League in their 9-7 win over the All British X1, played at Liverpool on 19 April 1941. In 1943 and 1944 he represented the Northern Command four times.

He represented an FA X1 twice in 1946 against the RAF and also won two England caps in 1937 whilst with Wolves, making a goalscoring debut on

thirty-four minutes against Norway in a 6-0 win on 14 May 1937, winning his second cap three days later in Sweden, winning 4-0.

He moved to Grimsby Town in November 1947 and was appointed captain, making a further 32 League appearances with 2 goals.

In 1948 he joined Kidderminster Harriers for a short time and later was appointed player-coach of Clacton Town before retiring from the game in 1960 returning to his native Hednesford.

He died on 12 July 2000 after a short time in Cannock Hospital, Cannock, Staffs.

Galley made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41

GEORGSON

An amateur reserve centre forward with the surname of Georgson, made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46.

GHOST

An amateur player with the surname of Ghost, made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41, being seen by all who attended the match!

Ian Colin GILLESPIE

Outside left Ian Gillespie was born in Plymouth, 6 May 1913, he started his career with Frost's Athletic, Norwich City's nursery club and then Norwich City itself in August 1933, but never made the first team so he moved onto Harwich & Parkeston in July 1935. He signed for Crystal Palace in February 1937, making 21 League appearances, scoring 4 goals and 6 Cup appearances with 1 goal.

During the war years, he was a guest player with West Ham United in 1943-44, making 1 appearance that came against Clapton Orient in a 3-1 win before 9000 Upton Park fans on 10 April 1944.

He also guested for Brighton & Hove Albion with 1 wartime appearance whilst registered with Ipswich Town. He also made 29 WW2 appearances for Ipswich scoring 4 goals and also guested for Millwall with 5 appearances between 1940 and 1943, Reading with 1 appearance in 1944-45 and Charlton Athletic with 1 appearance in 1939-40.

He signed professional forms with Ipswich Town in April 1946 and during his one season there, he made 6 League appearances, scoring 1 goal. He moved to Southern League side Colchester United on 16 May 1947, aged thirty-four years and eleven days, making his debut the following day at Bedford Town, a 2-0 win and his final game for them came on 11 September 1947, a 3-0 Southern League Cup victory over Chelmsford City in which he also scored. He made 4 Southern League appearances, scoring 1 goal and 2 Cup games with 1 goal. After leaving Colchester he joined Leiston in July 1947 and three years later was appointed player-coach and then Woodbridge Town.

He died in Ipswich, 5 March 1988, aged seventy-four.

Gillespie made 28 wartime appearance for O's scoring 2 goals, 1 appearance, scoring 1 goal against Crystal Palace in November 1940, 13 appearances, with 1 goal, also against Palace on 4 September 1943 and 14 appearances in 1944-45.

STANLEY JAMES GOLDSMITH

On 26 June 2014, the Leyton Orient club website stated that the club had traced a contender for the oldest living O's player, aged ninety two. It reported:

Stan Goldsmith was born in 1921 played for local side Waterlows in the late 1930s before joining the navy as a wireless operator. His son Peter noted that his Father played several occasions for Clapton Orient reserves during the War yarss between October 1941 and January 1942 when billated at home, training in Holloway, London.

In order for Goldsmith to play for the club, Orient wre required to write to his Commanding Officer to get permission.

Whilst being stationed in Freetown, in todays' Sierra Leone, Goldsmith played for a joint services team against Sierra Leone. After the war he moved to Romford and played his football for Elm Park. Once his playing career had ended, he became a referee which he did right upto 1987.

In 2014, he still lived in Romford and manages to attend the occasional Orient match, as long as the weather was nice.

The author got in touch with Goldsmith's son Peter who informed of the following which can be included into his profile on this website.

My dad was born on 29 July 1921 in Hackney, London and as a youngster played for his school team South Hackney Central and regularly for local club Waterlows.

He joined the army and later the Royal Navy as a wireless operator and when back at home he played 4 games for the Clapton Orient reserve side, two games being against Millwall and West Ham United. The O's wrote to his CE to ask permission for him to play, this was between October 1941 and January 1942 when billeted for training in Holloway.

Whilst stationed in Freetown, he represented a joint Services X1 against Sierre Leone.

In the late 1950's he moved to Harold Hill, Romford and played for Elm Park

Due to his late call-ups his name never appeared in any of the progammes but only as A.N. Other. He never made it as a player but instead refereed local

matches in the Essex Senior League in Romford which he did up until May 1987.

Today he gets to the watch O's rarely, but my wife and I are season ticket holders.

Goldsmith, who lived in a sheltered housing complex in Harold Hill, sadly died on 10 February 2016, aged 94, being O's oldest surviving player. His memorial service was led by former O's star player the Rev Alan Comfort on 3 March 2016 at the Romford Cemetary at the end of the service O's tune Tijuana Taxi was played.

[GOODWIN](#)

A local amateur player with the surname of Goodwin made 1 appearance for O's in the London Cup 'B' Division in the 1940-41 season.

[George William GOODYEAR](#)

Born in Luton, Wednesday 5 July 1916, Goodyear, a wing half started off with Hitchin Town before joining Luton Town in October 1938, he waited one year before making his debut, he went onto make a further 9 League appearances, as first team opportunities were limited due to the form of England international Frank Soo. He made a number of WW2 appearances for Luton, 9 in 1940-41 with 2 goals, 8 appearances with 2 goals in 1941-42, 32 appearances with 2 goals in 1942-43, 7 appearances with 1 goal in 1943-44, 14 appearances with 2 goals in 1944-45 and 27 appearances with 0 goals in 1945-46.

He was transferred to Southend United in July 1947, making 59 League appearances with 1 goal and 2 FA Cup appearances. During the War years he made 1 appearance in 1939-40 and 1 appearance in each of 1943-44 and 1945-46, totalling 3 appearances for Southend.

He moved to Crystal Palace on 1 June 1949 but left soon after to join Biggleswade but hung up his boots one year later.

Goodyear settled in Sandy, a small market town in Bedfordshire and died there during early 2001, aged eighty-five.

Goodyear made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46

[Frederick Leslie GORE](#)

There should always be a prominent place in the history of the O's for Les Gore. 'A true gentleman and Ambassador of football'

O's great servant, Les Gore was born in Coventry, 21 January 1914, starting his career with the Morris Metal Works team before playing for Fulham, Stockport County Carlisle United and Bradford City.

In the 1936-37 season he was with Stockport County, making 7 League appearances with 1 goal and 3 other Cup matches.

Gore, a 5ft 8in and 10st 11lb left winger joined O's on 1 May 1939 from Bradford City, he played in all 3 matches during the expunged 1939-40 League season, scoring once against Ipswich Town on 26 August 1939. Gore also guested for Brighton & Hove Albion with 1 goal from 2 wartime appearances in 1942-43. He appeared in one of legs for O's in the FA Cup tie against Newport Isle of Wight in November 1945, scoring in the 2-1 home victory, O's lost 2-0 away and went out of the FA Cup. He joined Yeovil Town in March 1946.

He was with O's in various training and managerial capacities for over fifteen years between 1951 and 1966.

His O's MANAGERIAL RECORD Read:

FL:	P187	W79	D40	L68	F301	A289
FA Cup:	P8	W3	D0	L5	F11	A15
<u>FL Cup:</u>	<u>P4</u>	<u>W1</u>	<u>D1</u>	<u>L2</u>	<u>F4</u>	<u>A3</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>199</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>316</u>	<u>307</u>

He left O's in May 1966 after his contract was not renewed due to the clubs' financial woes. In November 1966, he joined Charlton Athletic as scout, in April 1974, he was caretaker-manager, in 1984, a part-time scout before leaving in January 1991. He then joined Millwall as a part-time scout. On 25 January 1975, Charlton awarded him a Testimonial game against Arsenal

He died in Buckhurst Hill, Essex, Tuesday, 22 January 1991, the day after his seventy-seventh birthday.

Gore made a total of 21 wartime appearances for O's, 3 appearances in 1939-40, including a 5-1 win over Southend United and 18 appearances with 6 goals (against Ipswich Town, Northampton Town, Watford, Norwich City and Norwich again in a Cup game) in 1945-46

[Robert Edmond GREGG](#)

The 5ft 8in inside forward Bob Gregg made 1 WW2 Guest appearance for O's on 26 August 1944, O's had a player missing, so he was allowed to play, in a match played at Fratton Park against Portsmouth in a 5-1 defeat before over 10 000 Pompey fans. A report on the match in a local Portsmouth paper stated that he had a shot on six minutes saved by the Pompey goalkeeper Harry Walker.

Gregg was born in Ferryhill, a town in County Durham, 4 February 1904 and started his junior career with local sides' Ferryhill Athletic, Cornford Juniors, Spennymoor United and Chilton Colliery Recreation Athletic. In 1926 he signed pro forms with Darlington, making 40 League appearances with 21 goals. In 1928 he signed for Sheffield Wednesday and helped them win the First Division championship, making a total of 37 League appearances with 7

goals before joining Birmingham for £2 200, making 66 League appearances with 11 goals. He also scored a 'disallowed goal' for offside in the 1931 FA Cup Final. In September 1933 he moved onto Chelsea for a fee of £1 500, making 47 League appearances with 5 goals and 3 FA Cup appearances with 1 goal. His final game for Chelsea was on 8 January 1938, a 1-0 home defeat to Everton in the FA Cup before 41 946 Stamford Bridge fans.

In 1938, he moved onto Boston United and then in 1939 he joined Sligo Rovers in Ireland, making 12 League appearances with 1 goal, 4 Irish Cup appearances with 1 goal, 11 Shield Cup appearances with 0 goals and 1 appearance in a City Cup match.

In November 1945 he was stationed at the Colchester Army Garrison, making 3 appearances for Southern League side Colchester United. His debut came against Wisbech Town in the FA Cup aged 41 years and 272 days.

Gregg died in Hounslow, London during May 1991, aged eighty-seven.

Graham GREGORY

Amateur forward Graham Gregory made 1 wartime appearance for O's, scoring 1 goal against Crystal Palace in October 1940.

Albert Richard Charles GRIFFIN

Nippy outside right Bert Griffin was born in Brighton, 6 April 1925 in a poor housing area between London Road and the railway works, the son of a restaurateur from Walsall. He attended the Brighton Intermediate School in Pelham Street (later re-named Fawcett School) and represented the Brighton & Districts Schools Association - Brighton Boys in 1938-39, he also turned out for Elder Athletic, a local youth side.

He started his career as a sixteen year old in 1940 as a junior with Brighton & Hove Albion attending training twice a week, making his debut in May 1941 whilst working for the engineering firm Allen West.

He made his senior debut in a WW2 London War Cup fixture against Clapton Orient on Easter Monday 1942 before 6 000 Goldstone fans and he netted their second goal in a 5-2 victory, he played again five days later against a strong Arsenal side at Hove and went down 0-3. He played twice more for the first team, including a 1-0 victory over Clapton Orient on Boxing Day 1942.

He played for the Seagulls during the War, making 4 appearances, scoring 4 goal. In 1941-42 and 1942-43.

In 1943 he was called up to do his military service and joined the Royal Navy, despite the fact he never learnt to swim, serving on the light cruiser *HMS Birmingham* supporting merchant convoys to Russia out of Seapa Flow in Orkney Islands. When the conflict ended the crew were treated to a six-month positioning to the warmer West Indies.

Whilst based in Orkney he turned out as a guest player for Falkirk but on his demob, he returned to Brighton and worked again for Allen West Engineering right up to his retirement. He played for a local team called Goldstone FC formed by many of the youngsters from Brighton Juniors playing in the Brighton League and in later years in the Sussex County League Division Two.

He later played for Hastings but in 1942 he broke an ankle and so decided to retire from the game.

In 1981 he retired from the Allen West Company. His wife Ellen died in 2007 after fifty-four years of marriage. He died peacefully at his home in Brighton on 30 December 2011, aged eighty six.

Griffin made 7 wartime appearances for O's in 1941-42.

Glanville GRIFFITHS

Full-back Griffith made some wartime reserve appearance for O's in 1945-46, including playing for the reserve side at West Ham United on 25 August 1945, Queens Park Rangers on 5 September 1945, at Southend United on 8 September 1945 and at Crystal Palace on 8 December 1945.

Stanley Arthur HALL

Stan Hall was born in New Southgate, London, Sunday, 18 February 1917, starting with Tottenham Hotspur in 1935, he then played for Wood Green, Finchley before joining O's

The 5ft and 11st 11lb goalkeeper joined O's in May 1937, making 18 Football League appearances for O's in the 1938-39 season and remained at the club during the wartime regional league campaign, playing in every season between 1940 and 1946. He was also still with the club when League football commenced in 1946-47, making 8 League appearances, totalling 28 first team appearances.

He left O's in May 1947 when joining Alec Stock's Yeovil Town, making 46 Southern League appearances and 1 in the FA Cup, an 8-0 defeat at Manchester United, played at City Main Road Ground before 81 565 fans on 12 February 1949, due to Old Trafford being repaired for bomb damage.

Hall made 132 wartime appearances for O's. He made 30 appearances in 1939-40, 4 League and 6 London Cup 'B' Division appearances in 1940-41, 33 appearances in 1941-42, 16 appearances in 1942-43, 1 appearance in 1943-44, 17 appearances in 1944-45 and 25 appearances in 1945-46

Leslie HANN

Les Hann was born in Tynemouth, Northumberland, Saturday, 3 June 1911 to William and Maud Hann. He started his career with Windy Nook FC, before joining West Ham United in 1934, making 3 appearances with 1 goal. He later

played for Ashington, Blyth Spartans, Felling Red Star, Accrington Stanley, with 29 league appearances and 1 goal. He played for Walsall in WW2, before giving up football in 1945.

The 5ft 8½in and 10st 10lb player joined O's on 13 July 1939 and played in two of the matches from the expunged 1939-40 season due to the war. He was described as an industrious, workman-like, who never got a chance his true potential.

Hann made 2 Football League appearances in 1939-40, which due to WW2 were expunged from the record books.

HANSON

He was an O's reserve inside right who after being demobbed from the RAF during February 1946 went on trial with both Exeter City and Torquay United.

Alfred HARRISON

Right wing half, he also played at centre forward, Alf Harrison, a flight Sarjeant, made 3 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45, including appearance in a 3-0 win at Watford on 20 January 1945, the only away victory of the season and one of five wins, out of thirty games all season during the 1944-45 season, in a 2-6 defeat to Chelsea on 13 January 1945.

He was also a regular reserve player in the 1942-43 season, also in 1944-45, including in a 13-0 victory against Brentford Reserves on 16 December 1944, scoring twice.

HEASON

A local amateur left winger named Heason (First name not given) played in a 5-2 defeat at Crystal Palace on 11 August 1941.

HEDGES

A local amateur player with the surname of Hedges, made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1941-42.

HENLEY

An amateur inside forward who appeared against Southend United in a 0-3 defeat on 30 March 1946.

Jack HEWITT

Hewitt played at centre forward, right half or inside left, Jack and was also known as Josh, who had a strong North-East dialect, started as a junior with Norwich City, before having a long career with non-league teams Northampton Town and Peterborough United in the Midland League between January and May 1940 making 18 appearances with 5 goals for Peterborough and then played for Bourne Town.

Josh Hewitt, made 39 wartime appearances for O's between 1942 and 1944, scoring 14 goals including all 4 goals in a 4-2 victory versus Fulham on 21st November 1942, which were scored during his run of 9 goals from 5 matches. He

made 28 appearances with 14 goals in 1942-43 and 11 appearances in 1943-44, including 1 goal in a 5-2 defeat at Crystal Palace on 4 September 1943.

Charles Emmanuel HILLAM

Charlie Hillam was born in Burnley, Tuesday, 6 October 1908, in 1922, he worked as a miner in a local colliery, playing for Nelson and then Clitheroe. He joined Burnley in May 1932, making his debut in a 4-4 draw against West Ham United in October 1932, with a further twenty league appearances before joining Manchester United in May 1933, he made 8 appearance, and conceding 21 goals. On 30 May 1934, both he and Tommy Manns signed for O's for a joint fee of £100. He made his debut in February 1935 and made a further 115 consecutive appearances, he was on wages of £5 per week plus a ten shilling win bonus. He was in goal for O's first League match at Brisbane Road, against Cardiff City in August 1937.

The 5ft 11½in and 11st 12lb goalkeeper made 134 senior first team appearances for O's between 1934 and 1938 before joining Southend United on 16 June 1938.

Hillam joined Southend United on 24 August 1938 on a free transfer, making 35 Wartime appearances in 1939-40 and 2 appearances in 1940-41 for them. After he retired, he became a policeman in Southend, he was also an accomplished tenor singer and would sing in concerts throughout Essex to earn extra money.

He died in Southend-on-Sea, from lung cancer, 16 June 1958, aged forty-nine.

In the 1940-41 season Hillam made 2 London Cup 'B' Division apperances for O's.

Sidney George HOBBS

Sid Hobbins was born in Plumstead, south east London, Saturday, 6 May 1916, starting with Bromley in 1935, he later signed for Charlton Athletic, making 2 league appearances and 101 WW2 appearances. He also guested for Fulham, West Ham United, Crystal Palace , making a total of 19 appearances. He also made 11 league appearances for Millwall.

Three years after the war the 5ft 10½in and 11st 11lb goalkeeper joined O's from Millwall, making 11 league appearances in 1949. He joined O's for a nominal fee, as a good will gesture from the Millwall board to new O's chairman and owner Harry Zussman. His final game for O's was a 7-2 defeat at Aldershot and so he decided it was time to hang up his gloves.

He appeared in goal for Charlton Athletic against O's on 19 December 1942, O's winning 4-2 and was a regular for Charlton between 1939 and 1944 with 101 appearances in goal for them. He played in the WW2 South Cup final on 1 May 1943 before 75 000 Wembley fans, losing 7-1 to Arsenal. In 1963, he founded the Welling Football Club, which was to chair up until his death. He

died in Shooters Hill, Greenwich, south-east London, Friday 16 March 1984, aged sixty-seven.

Hobbins made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1939-40. He was in goal for the first match played on 21 October 1939, a 2-1 win at Watford, the first home match after the Second World War commenced and also in the first home game on 28 October 1939, a 1-6 defeat to Arsenal.

HOUSTON

A player with the surname of Houston (first name not listed) made 1 wartime guest appearance for O's, scoring twice against Southend United on Christmas day 1940, O's lost the match, which was played at Chelmsford by 9-3.

He was registered with Chelmsford but guested for O's to make up the numbers, when one O's player never arrived (probably too much Christmas pud!).

Thomas HOWSHALL

Tommy Howshall was born in Normacot, Stoke-on-Trent, 15 July 1920. He started his career with both Dresden United and Stoke City, as did his older brother Jack, (who himself went onto make 140 appearances in the Football League with clubs like Chesterfield, Southport with 1 appearance in 1944-45, Bristol Rovers, Accrington Stanley and Carlisle United, Jack died in 1962).

Tommy Howshall, a half-back, joined the RAF in 1939 and as a player guested for quite a few clubs in wartime football as well as playing for the armed forces, including Chester with 1 appearance in 1944-45, Grimsby Town, 1 appearance in 1940-41, Reading (between 1944-46, making 3 appearances), Southport, with 1 appearance in 1944-45, Stoke City, with 1 appearance in 1944-45, Tottenham Hotspur, with 1 appearance in 1945-46 and Watford, making 5 appearances in 1945-46, his debut came on 1 September 1945, a 2-1 win over Norwich City before 4 842 fans and his final game occurred on 29 September, a 2-1 win over Walsall before 5 266 fans.

In November 1945 he returned from service in Egypt and was stationed at Lea Bridge Barricks and signed up for Clapton Orient.

The O's club programme in March 1946 reported that Tommy Howshall was posted to a unit in Hope Cove, Devon, a Radar facility near Salcombe in February 1946 and was given permission to appear as a 'guest' player for Plymouth Argyle, making 3 wartime appearances.

In March 1946, having impressed Plymouth so much he signed professional terms at a reported fee of £1 000 but the talks between the clubs were long and protracted until he signed on the 18 April 1946 and by 27 April 1946, he had already made four appearances this being two days after his demob. This was to be his final appearance for them because of a fall-out with management and so he was placed on the transfer list at the same fee they paid for him,

stating he was not amenable to discipline. He remained on the transfer list for over one-year until leaving on a free transfer.

A Plymouth programme at the time reported the following: 'His departure from Plymouth was acrimonious; we just wanted him to leave the club.

He moved to Worcester City on a free transfer in July 1947. The remainder of his life remains unclear until his death in Cheshire during June 1985, just before his sixth-fifth birthday.

Howshall made 12 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46, scoring 1 goal against Walsall in a Cup match. He also appeared in a number of reserve games.

Douglas Arthur HUNT

Doug Hunt was born in Shipton Bellinger, near Andover, Hampshire, Tuesday, 19 May 1914, he started off with Winchester Hill, before joining Tottenham Hotspur in March 1934., making 17 league appearances with 6 goals, he also made 74 reserve appearances, scoring an impressive 56 goals. He joined Barnsley in March 1937 for £1 750, with 36 appearances and 18 goals. He moved on to Sheffield Wednesday for £3 875, hitting 30 goals(1pen) from 42 appearances, he also played in the 3 league games in 1939, which were expunged from the record books. He first hit the headlines when smashing six goals for Wednesday in a 7-0 win over Norwich City on 19 November 1938.

In the war years he had a good run with Brentford scoring 86 goals from 168 appearances. He also played during the War for Tottenham Hotspur with 2 appearances in 1939-40 and 1 appearance in 1943-44 and 1 appearance for West Ham United in 1944-45.

On 21 July 1945, he played in one 'unofficial' England international, a 3-1 defeat to Switzerland. In February 1946, he was transfer listed by the Sheffield club because he wanted to return south, O's boss Captain Charles Hewitt put in a cheeky £620 offer and on 5 April 1946 it was accepted and he was appointed as player-coach and also made team captain, in 1947 he also acted as chief scout.

The 5ft 11in and 11st 3lb centre forward joined O's on 6 April 1946 from Sheffield Wednesday and scored in his second appearance, a 2-1 win over Northampton Town at Brisbane Road. Hunt went onto make 61 League appearances with 16 goals for O's between 1946 and 1948.

In one match on Boxing Day 1947, he spent thirty-five minutes in goal for the injured Stan Tolliday, O's lost 6-2. He was released by new O's boss Neil McBain in May 1948 and on 16 June, he was appointed player-manager of Gloucester City. In 1958 he was appointed coach with Yeovil Town and stayed with them for nearly thirty-years, a Testimonial game was held for him in 1976, he finally retired in 1986, aged seventy-two and he died three-years

later in Yeovil, on Tuesday, 30 May 1989, a few weeks after his seventy-fifth birthday.

Hunt made 5 wartime appearances for O's, scoring once against Northampton Town on 6 April 1946. He also appeared in a 2-0 defeat at Watford on 19 April 1946 in the Third Division Cup north region match.

[George HYATT](#)

Local amateur player George Hyatt made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

[Jacob ICETON](#)

Jake Icton was born in West Auckland, county Durham, Thursday, 22 October 1903. He started off with Hull City on amateur forms in 1925, but it was with Fulham that he made his mark, making 99 first team appearances between 1930 and 1935. After short spell with Aldershot, the goalkeeper signed for O's in August 1936, staying for three-seasons, making 40 League appearances. In one reserve game at Swansea Town, he saved a spot -kick three-times, it was taken three times, because the referee was not happy the first two spot kicks. He received warm applause from the Welsh fans. He joined Worcester City in June 1939.

Icton made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943, at the age of forty.

[Albert INGLE](#)

Bert Ingle made 1 wartime appearance in 1939-40, he also played for the reserves in 1940-41.

[Archibald IRVING](#)

Archie Irving made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1942-43.

[ISLAND](#)

A goalkeeper with the surname of Island, mostly a reserve player, who made his one and only WW2 appearance for O's when replacing the unavailable Stan Hall at Brentford, a 2-2 draw, on 29 August 1942.

[John William JAMESON](#)

The Sunderland F.C. registered inside forward John Jamieson made 1 wartime appearance for O's at Reading on 6 January 1945, a 3-1 defeat, his football career was limited as he spent most of his time serving in the Army. He did play once for Sunderland in 1944-45.

[Horace Edward JELLY](#)

Ted Jelly wasa born in Leicester, Sunday, 28 August 1921, the right full-back began his career in Leicestershire junior football with Belgrave United.

During the War years he represented the Royal Navy and the United Services teams as a winger. After being discharged, he joined Leicester City he was converted to a right full-back and spent five-years at Filbert Street.

His appearance record shows that he was never regular in the first team. He made his League debut on 26 May 1947, a 1-1 draw at Southampton. He went onto make 56 League appearances with 1 goal and 9 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals. His only goal came on 18 August 1950 at Sheffield United, a 2-2 draw. His final League appearance came versus Notts County on 4 September 1950, ending 1-1.

However, he did appear in Leicester's famous FA Cup run of 1948-49, ending in an FA Cup Final appearances against Wolverhampton Wanderers on 30 April 1949, losing 3-1 before 98 920 Wembley fans.

After five-years at Filbert Street he moved to Plymouth Argyle in August 1951, but it was eighteen months before he made his League debut, this on 31 January 1953, a 1-0 win over Barnsley. He made 11 League and 2 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals, with his final appearance, being a 3-3 draw against Bristol Rovers on 7 November 1953.

An injury ended his career during 1953. In later years he was a tour-guide at Filbert Street. In 1987 he was interviewed by the Leicester Oral History Archive on his memories of the 1948 FA Cup run.

He died in Leicester, 16 January 2000, aged seventy-eight.

Jolly made 1 wartime appearances for O's at full back in the 3-0 defeat at Reading on Saturday 26 February 1944 in a League Cup South Group D fixture before 4 000 spectators.

JENKINS

An amateur player named Jenkins made 1 London Cup 'B' Division appearance in 1940-41.

Joseph JOBLING

Joe Jobling was born in Annfield Plain, County Durham, 29 July 1906. The full back started off with amateur teams Sunderland Co-operative, South Pontop Villa, Langley Park and Annfield Plain. In 1927, he moved to Gorleston and then was with Norwich City between 1929 and 1932, making 71 League appearances with one goal, making his League debut against Luton Town on 9 September 1929.

In 1933, he joined Charlton Athletic where he spent eight seasons with two promotions, making 212 League appearances with 5 goals (1 pen) and 11 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals up to WW2. He was at right half in the Charlton team surprisingly beaten 3-0 at Clapton Orient in a FA Cup tie on 11 January 1936 before 18 658 spectators. He made 41 wartime appearances for Charlton Athletic between 1939 and 1946 with 1 goal.

Jobling also made 2 wartime appearances for West Ham in 1941-42 and with Watford, he made a total of 25 appearances, with 15 appearances in 1941-42, 7 appearances in 1942-43 and 1 appearance in seasons 1943-44, 1944-45 and 1945-46. He also made 1 appearance for Brentford in 1944-45 and 1 appearance

with Norwich City in 1939-40 and with Watford, making 7 further appearances in 1942-43 1 appearance in 1943-44 and 1 appearance in 1944-45.

After the war he retired from playing and was appointed first team coach at Charlton Athletic and later he was the club scout.

He died in south London, 20 July 1969, a week before his sixty-third birthday.

Jobling, having obtained permission on 18 November 1939 from Charlton Athletic to turn out for O's, he made a total of 29 wartime appearances for O's, 19 appearances in 1939-40, 2 League and 6 London Cup 'B' Division appearances in 1940-41, 1 appearance in 1941-42 and 1 appearance in 1945-46 after permission was granted by Norwich City, on 30 March 1946, a 0-3 defeat by Southend United.

Thomas Henry Anthony JOBSON

Wing half Tom Jobson was born in west London, 9 November 1911. He started off as a reserve player with Chelsea in the August 1936, he left London to join Ipswich Town in August 1936 and made his debut in the FA Cup Preliminary Round, a 7-1 win against Eastern Counties United on 17 September 1936. He made a total of 4 senior appearances (3 in FA Cup and 1 in the Southern League with 1 goal). He left Ipswich in July 1937 because he lived in London and found the travelling too much.

Between November and December 1940, he made 3 appearances with 1 goal for Arsenal in the WW2 South Regional League, he scored 1 goal, in an 8-1 win at Northampton Town on 23 November, a 2-2 draw with Crystal Palace on 30 November and on 7 December a 5-0 loss at Charlton Athletic. He also made 1 appearance for Watford in 1942-43.

Jobson was a painter and decorator by trade and served in the Royal Navy as a PT Instructor. During the war, he made 1 wartime appearance for Watford in 1942-43, after the War, he managed a number of non-league clubs.

He died in in Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead during 1981.

Jobson made 2 wartime appearances for O's, 1 appearance in the London Cup 'B' Division in 1940-41 and 1 appearance in 1942-43

JOHNSON

An amateur player named Johnson made 1 London Cup 'B' Division appearance for O's in 1940-41.

Eric Norman JONES

Eric Jones was born in Stirchley, a village just outside Telford, 5 May 1915, he was brought up in Aston, Birmingham. The winger started his career with Kidderminster Harriers before playing for a number of league clubs, without much success. He was with Wolverhampton Wanderers between October 1936 and March 1937, making 3 League appearances, he also netted once for

Wolves in a 7-2 friendly win over Bohemians in Dublin on 27 April 1937, Portsmouth between November 1937 and September 1938 with just 1 League appearance and with Stoke City between September 1938 and May 1939, having failed to appear in the first team, he then signed for West Bromwich Albion.

In a League match against Tottenham Hotspur, which occurred when the Second World War broke out, on 2 September 1939, he completed his hat-trick in a 4-3 win but when League matches were abandoned, his feat was expunged from the record books.

During the war years he guested for a number of clubs including, Portsmouth with 1 appearance in 1939-40, 1 appearance for Cardiff City in 1941-42, West Bromwich Albion between 1939 and 1945 with 21 appearances with 6 goals, Chelsea in 1940-41 with 5 goals from 11 appearances, Watford 1940 to 1943 with 45 appearances and 16 goals, Southend United, 6 appearances with 0 goals in 1940-41, Fulham. 7 appearances with 1 goal in 1941-42, 2 appearances in 1944-45 and 9 appearances in 1945-46, Tottenham Hotspur between September 1943 and January 1944 with 16 appearances and 7 goals, Brentford in 1945-46 with 20 appearances and 1 goal, Crewe Alexandra with 1 appearance in 1945-46, Leeds United with 1 appearance in September 1944, Queens Park Rangers with 5 appearances and 4 goals in 1943-44 and 4 goals from 9 appearances in 1944-45, Crystal Palace in 1944-45 with 3 goals from 13 appearances, Northampton Town in 1944-45 with a single appearance and with Northampton Town with a single appearance also in 1944-45 and finally with Exeter City another single appearance in 1944-45.

In December 1945 he signed for Brentford, making 4 FA Cup appearances but before he could make any 1 league appearance, he signed for Crewe Alexandra in July 1946 and stayed for two seasons making 37 League appearances with 9 goals and 4 FA Cup appearances, scoring 1 goal.

In 1948 he signed for his first ever club Kidderminster Harriers until he retired from playing in 1949.

In July 1949 he went to Switzerland to manage BSC Young Boys until leaving in 1951 to manage Belgium side Beerschot. In 1960 he was appointed manager of Dutch side De Graafschap, he left two-years later.

In June 1962, he returned to England to be appointed trainer-coach with Port Vale, but in his first game in charge with them at Wrexham he was struck by a bottle thrown from the crowd and carried off the field. He resigned from his post the following October for personal reasons.

He died in Lincoln, 2 October 1985, aged sixty-nine.

Eric Jones made 1 appearance in 1941-42

[Frederick JONES](#)

Fred Jones was born in Pontypool, Monmouthshire, Wales, 26 August 1909. The big centre forward started his amateur career with a number of Welsh clubs including All Saints, Pontnewydd, Aberaman and Pontypridd before joining Swansea Town on amateur forms in February 1933, turning professional the following July, making 6 League appearances.

He moved to Notts County in July 1934 but only had a single appearance. In December 1934 he moved to Millwall in December 1934 making 1 League appearance in 1934-35, a 2-1 defeat to Clapton Orient and later 8 League appearances with 1 goal which came in 4-0 win over Crystal Palace during 1935-36. He also appeared in a 5-0 away defeat at Exeter City in a Third Division south Cup match during February 1935.

In August 1936 he moved to Folkestone Town and stayed until February 1938 when he signed for Southern League side Ipswich Town for a fee of £500, making 25 Southern League appearances with 4 goals and helping them to finish third on the table.

Ipswich gained admission into the Football League when gaining 36 votes over two Football League teams, Walsall ended with 34 votes and Gillingham with 24 votes. He made 21 League appearances with 8 goals and 4 Cup appearances with 2 goals and netted Ipswich's first goal in the Football League on a 4-2 victory over Southend United on 27 August 1938 at Portman Road.

During the War-years he guested for Chelmsford City, Fulham, 2 appearances in 1944-45, Millwall, 2 appearances in August and September 1945 and Watford, 1942-43 with 8 appearances with 2 goals and 1943-44 and 1 appearance with 1 goal in 1944-45.

In later years he was manager of the Marconi Works team. In August 1987 he was guest of honour for Ipswich's home League game with Aston Villa.

He died during August 1994 in Chelmsford, aged eighty-five.

(Not to be confused with a player of the same name, Frederick S. Jones born in Owesry, Shropshire in 1897, who played for Barry Town and Stockport County. He died on Owesry on 5 October 1953, aged fifty-six).

Fred Jones made 1 wartime appearance in 1943-44

[Leonard JONES](#)

Outside right Len Jones was born in Barnsley, 9 June 1913, the outside right started with Wombwell and Huddersfield Town on amateur forms in 1932 before joining his local club Barnsley in August 1933, making 57 League appearances with 0 goals before moving to Essex to play for Chelmsford in 1938.

He made 1 wartime appearance for Brighton & Hove Albion in February 1941, 1 appearance for Brentford in 1943-44 and 30 WW2 appearances for Plymouth Argyle.

After the war, the outside right made a total of 139 League appearances, scoring 5 goals with Plymouth Argyle, Southend United and Colchester United, the forty-year old ended his career with Ipswich Town in July 1953 but did not make any first team appearances only 27 reserve appearances with 1 goal.

He died in Chelmsford during April 1998, aged eighty-five.

Les Jones made a total of 1 wartime appearances between 1940 -41.

[S. JONES](#)

Jones was a reserve inside forward who played for O's in 1946.

[JUBY](#)

A local amateur player with the surname of Juby (first name not listed) made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1942-43.

[Gerald Michael KELLY](#)

Gerry, also called George, Kelly was born in South Hylton, Sunderland, 18 September 1908. A very quick 5ft 7in right winger who started with both Castletown and Hylton Colliery before joining Sunderland in 1927. The following year he signed for Nelson and was ever-present in 1928-29 with 46 League appearances, scoring 15 goals (1 pen). He joined Huddersfield Town in August 1929, playing 37 League matches during his three-year stay with 16 goals including a hat trick against Manchester United at Old Trafford on 10 September 1930.

In 1931 he moved to Charlton Athletic and scored 6 goals from 20 matches. The following season he joined Chester and in four years notched 26 goals from 72 appearances between 1932 and 1935.

In 1936 he moved to Port Vale with 2 goals from 20 League appearances. The following year he was with Southampton making a further 19 League appearances with 2 goals. In 1939-40 he made 1 WW2 appearance for Southampton. After the War he retired from the game.

He died in Luton during January 1983, aged seventy-five.

Gerald Kelly made a total of 9 wartime appearances for O's between 1943 and 1945, scoring 2 goals. 4 appearances in 1943-44 including appearances against Charlton Athletic, a 1-7 home defeat on Christmas Day 1943 and Reading on 8 April 1944 and finally 5 appearances with 2 goals in 1944-45

[Lawrence KELLY](#)

Full back (he played both left and right) Lawrie Kelly was born in Bellshill, Scotland, 19 November 1911, starting his career with St Anthony's in Glasgow.

He was with Southend United between 1934 and 1936 making 20 League appearances and then moved to Bristol City in August 1937 making just 1 League appearance. He was with Aldershot between 1937 and 1939 playing a further 39 matches before he went off to War and 9 appearances for Aldershot in the Wartime seasons of 1939-40 and 26 appearances in 1940-41, 11 appearances in 1941-42 appearances in 1942-43 and 1 appearance in 1943-44 and 3 appearances with Millwall in 1944-45. He made 1 appearance for Port Vale in 1945-46.

He died in 1979.

Lawrence Kelly made a total of 34 wartime appearances for O's between 1941-45 with 1 goal whilst on the books of Reading.

He made 6 appearances in 1941-42, 22 appearances in 1942-43, 3 appearances with 1 goal in 1943-44, including in a 1-7 home defeat to Charlton Athletic on Christmas Day 1943 and 3 appearances in 1944-45, including an appearance at Arsenal on 29 January 1944, a 1-0 defeat before 8971 spectators. He played against his 'hone' club Aldershot both on 18 March 1943, a 0-5 defeat and also on 22 April 1944, in a 3-0 away victory.

[George Jeffrey KIRBY](#)

George Kirby made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46.

[Reginald John KIRKHAM](#)

A left back, Reg Kirkham was born in Ormskirk, Lancashire, 8 May 1919. He started with Mughull and was later with both Ellesmere Port Town and Ormskirk FC before joining Wolverhampton Wanderers as a pacy winger in August 1937,

The following year he was an amateur with Everton, playing for the reserve side whilst still also playing for Ormskirk. He joined up again with Wolves in 1939, making 1 Wartime appearance in 1941-42, 2 appearances in 1942-43, 13 appearances in 1943-44, 16 appearances in 1944-45 and 3 appearances in 1945-46, but with the hostilities in progress he joined the Army and was stationed in both Bournemouth and Ireland. He turned out for Glentoran and played in the Irish Cup Final defeated by Lingfield whilst registered as a Bournemouth player. He made 23 appearances for Bournemouth with 24 goals, 1 appearance in 1940-41 with 2 goals and 15 appearances in 1945-46 with 7 goals.

During this period he also made guest appearances for both Notts County with 1 appearance in 1943-44 and Wolverhampton Wanderers with 31 appearances with 1 goal between December 1941 and April 1944.

In March and April 1942, he represented an Army XI versus AA Command in a 4-0 victory in Derby. The Eastern Command versus London Command, a 3-1 loss at Watford and the Army XI against a Norwegian Army XI on 25 April 1942, a 7-1 victory in Dumfries, Scotland, scoring once.

In 1946, he returned to Wolves but soon after joined Burnley, making his League debut for them in March 1947 aged twenty-eight, with 13 appearances with one goal. He also made 40 appearances during 1949 in their Central League reserve championship winning side.

In May 1952 he went on tour with Burnley to Turkey but broke his leg on 19 May playing against Ankaragucu in a 3–0 win where he had his leg set but on return to Burnley the leg had to be broken and reset again, this ended his professional career.

In 1953, he turned out for Rossendale in the Lancashire Combination before retiring soon after. In later years he was instrumental in setting up Burnley's Ex-Clarets Association and enjoyed working on his farm.

He died in Lancashire during 1999

Kirkham made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44

George KITCHING

Centre forward George Kitching made 1 wartime appearance for O's against Charlton Athletic on 23 December 1944, O's lost 0-4.

Herbert KNOTT

Centre forward Bert Knott was born Goole, eady Yortkshire, 5 December 1914. He commenced his career with Goole Town in August 1932 before moving to Arsenal the following October playing for the reserve side.

Between 1933 and 1934 he played for Hendon, making his debut on 26 November 1932, a 6-1 win over Sutton United and he went onto make 7 appearances with 6 goals and 7 Cup appearances with 9 goals. The 1933-34 season was even better for him making 19 appearances with 26 goals and 12 Cup appearances with 6 goals, a total of 32 goals from 31 appearances.

Knott had two spells with Margate during the 1934-35 and 1935-36 seasons as part of Arsenal's nursery arrangement with that club, scoring 29 goals. He netted 4 goals on debut on 25 August 1934 in a 10-2 win over Dartford.

During August 1937, after trials with Sheffield United, Bradford City and Lincoln City, he signed for Walsall in 1937-38 making 9 League apperarances with 2 goals and 2 Division Three south Cup appearances both against Aldershot in September and October 1937 with 0 goals.

After a short spells with Brentford and Stourbridge, he was back with Brierley Hill Alliance between August 1938 and July 1940. After a spell with

Reading in 1940 as a reserve player, he played for Hull City from October 1940 and netted 25 goals from 22 wartime games.

He spent a couple of years as a guest player with Lincoln City, making his debut at Chesterfield on 30 August 1941 and his final appearance came on 13 November 1943 on 13 November 1943 at Grimsby Town and netted a total of 28 goals from 31 appearances with four hat-tricks, including in a spell of 4 games netting a total of 16 goals. He earned an average of £15 per week at Lincoln.

He also appeared during the war years with Sheffield United, making 5 appearances and 5 goals in 1945-46, Bradford Park Avenue, 8 appearances and 3 goals in 1945-46 and Hull City with 19 appearances and 19 goals in 1939-40 and 3 appearances with 6 goals in 1944-45 and 1 appearance for Reading in 1940-41 and Norwich City with 1 appearance in 1941-42, Notts County with 1 appearance and 1 goal in 1943-44 and Millwall with 2 appearances in 1942-43.

Knott was with Hull City for the commencement of Football League programme in 1946-47, but netted only once from six games and was released in January 1947 and re-joined Margate and scored a hat trick in his first game - a 6-2 win over Deal and netted a total of 10 goals in just 13 appearances but was released in May 1947 when he joined Hinckley Athletic.

He died in the Spilsbury area of Lincolnshire during June 1986, aged seventy-one.

Knott made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945 - 46.

[Frederick John KURZ](#)

Fred Kurz, a free-scoring centre forward was born in Grimsby, 3 September 1918 to German born parents were were interned for part of WW1. In English, his surname is translated as Short.

He started off his footballing career with Grimsby YMCA before joining 'big brother' Grimsby Town in May 1936, making 3 League appearances until leaving in 1938. He turned out for Charlton Athletic in 1940-41 making 9 WW2 appearances with 9 goal, being their top goalscorer that season.

In 1941, Kurz was stationed at Woolwich and during both the 1941-42 and 1942-43 seasons he turned out for Watford making a total of 17 appearances with 8 goals. He played for Watford on 21 February 1942 under the name of 'Newman' as he was absent without leave and so his true identity could not be revealed. He netted 13 goals from 14 appearances in 1943-44 for Millwall.

In December 1945 he was a guest player with Crystal Palace and scored a hat-trick on debut. He impressed the Palace fans so much they petitioned the Palace chairman to sign him and eventually he did from Grimsby for a then record fee of £5 000.

During his two Wartime seasons with Palace he netted 47 goals from 53 appearances and over the next seasons in the Football League a further 48 goals (1 pen) accrued from 151 appearances in a struggling Palace side.

In 1951, he joined Boston United and top scored in the 1951-52 season with 24 goals from 40 appearances

He was with Crystal Palace between December 1945 and 1950 making 148 League appearances with 48 goals, he also netted 14 goals in the FA Cup during his two seasons with them.

He died in Grimsby, 28 November 1978, aged sixty

Kurz made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1944-45.

[Eric Victor LAMBERT](#)

Lambert was born on 4 August 1920 in Derby, an inside forward who was registered with Nottingham Forest, making 1 appearance in 1942-43 and Derby County during the war years with 3 appearances in 1943-44 and 1 appearance in 1944-45.

After the war, in June 1946, he joined Hartlepoons United making his debut on 31 August 1946 versus Barrow and his final appearance came on 12 December 1946 in an FA Cup tie against Rochdale. In total he made 16 League appearances and 2 FA Cup games without scoring.

He died in Derby during the third quarter of 1979.

Lambert made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44

[William Harry Charles LANE](#)

Billy Lane was born in Tottenham, north London, Wednesday, 28 October 1903. His actual durname was Lohn, but in August 1914, his family changed their surame to Lane, because of the anti German feeling at the time after the declaration of WW1.

He came to the fore with Tottenham Hotspur from September 1923, hitting 7 league goals from 23 appearances. and 2 FA Cup goals from 4 appearances. He signed for Watford for £950 in May 1932 and stayed for four-years, with 136 first team appearance and 77 goals. Bristol City signed him for £200 in January 1936 and after 31 first team appearances and 11 goals he joined O's in June 1937

The 5ft 10½in and 11st 3lb inside right Billy Lane, played for O's in 1937-38, with 14 senior appearances and 2 goals. He also made 1 wartime appearance for Brighton & Hove Albion versus Clapton Orient on 28 March 1942, scoring once and made 2 appearance with 1 goal for Watford in 1942-43.

During the War years he served in the Royal Army Service Corp and Army Physical Training Corp. In September 1945, he turned down the chance to manage O's, instead the club appointed Willie Hall. He went onto a long coaching career right upto the 1970 with Brighton, Arsenal, QPR, Arsenal and finally Tottenham Hotspur before retiring. He died in Chelmsford, Essex, Sunday, 10 November 1985.

Lane made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44.

William Herbert LAYTON

Wing half Billy Layton was born in Shirley, Derbyshire, 13 January 1915, he started off with local side Shirley Town and played for Reading between March 1937 and 1939 making 39 League appearances with 13 goals. During the War years he made a number of appearances for Reading, 19 appearances with 8 goals, 30 appearances with 7 goals in 1940-41 and 12 appearances with 3 goals in the Londond Cup during the same season, 18 appearances with 0 goals in 1941-42, 17 appearances with 6 goals in 1942-43, 26 appearances with 5 goals in 1943-44, 27 appearances with 6 goals in 1944-45, with 23 appearances with 5 goals in 1945-46, totalling 181 appearances with 40 goals.

Layton made 1 wartime appearance for Brighton & Hove Albion in April 1940. After the War, in 1946, he re-joined Reading, making a further 12 League appearances with 4 goals. He moved to Bradford Park Avenue in January 1947 and made 47 League appearances, scoring 5 goals. August 1950, saw Layton on the books of Colchester United where he signed for £800, making a further 7 League appearances, his final appearance came aged 36 years and 105 days on 28 April 1951 against Bristol City before joining Harwich & Parkeston.

He died in Derbyshire during February 1984

Layton made 1 wartime appearance in 1939-40

David Jack LEVENE

The 5ft 9in and 11st 11lb left half back David Levene (also sometimes listed as Levine), was born in Bethnal Green, east London, 25 February 1908, he attended the Jewish Free School and played football for Hutchinson House and the Jewish Lads Club in Hackney.

On 27 December 1926 he first played for the Tottenham Hotspur 'A' team (3rd X1) at Windsor & Eton.

He moved to Hunonians Club of the North Middlesex League. He re-appeared for Tottenham Hotspur as an amateur in December 1930 and played against Chesham United before signing amateur forms with Spurs in January 1931. scoring a hat trick against Hastings & St Leonards.

He learnt his trade with Spurs nursery team Northfleet United winning a Kent League Championship medal during 1931-32 and also won a Kent League Cup winners' medal in their defeat of Folkestone on 1 May 1932.

He turned professional at White Hart Lane in May 1932 and made 8 League appearances, five in season 1932-33 and three in 1934-35. He also made 2 FA Cup appearances, one being a 6-0 win over Oldham Athletic in 1933. Levene between 1932 and 1936 made 107 London Combination reserve appearances for Spurs. On 17 June 1935, he married Sadie Karet of Southend.

He told the Jewish Chronicle Newspaper on leaving that the Spurs players and fans always treated him with great respect.

Levene then moved to Crystal Palace on 6 December 1935 for £650, making 22 League appearances, before leaving in June 1937. After a spell in France with Olympique Lillois in 1937-38 but he injured a knee and missed most of the season, he returned to London and signed for O's in August 1938 but was never chosen for the first eleven but only played in the war years. He also made 1 appearance for Southend United in 1939-40.

He died in Southend during November 1970 aged sixty-two.

Levene made 12 wartime appearances for O's between 1940 and 1942. He made 10 League and 1 London Cup 'B' Division appearances in 1940-41 and 1 appearance in 1941-42

Frederick LEVEY

Local amateur player Fred Levey made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

LEWIS

Inside forward Lewis (first name not given) made 1 wartime appearance for O's at Reading, a 3-0 defeat on 26 February 1944.

Edward LEWIS

Lewis was born in West Bromwich, Monday 21 June 1926. He joined West Bromwich Albion on amateur forms in October 1944, making 28 Northern Section Wartime appearances

The 5ft 11ins and 11st 3lb goalkeeper (not the more famous O's centre forward and full-back of the same name) joined O's from West Bromwich Albion in March 1946, and played in all of the final seven Wartime games, he later appeared in 5 Football League games for O's in 1946-47 before having to retire through injury and returned home to West Bromwich. He was often seen with O's on the attack, sitting at the foot of the post cheering on his teammates.

Lewis made 7 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46, including a 0-3 defeat to Southend United on 30 March 1946 and at Watford in a Third Division Cup north region match on 19 April 1946, a 2-0 defeat.

John Gilbert Hay LIDDELL

Johnny Liddell was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, Saturday, 17 April 1915, he started with local side Dunbar United, making 146 appearances with an outstanding return of 155 goals, before moving to Airdrieonians.

The 5ft 10½in and 11st 2lb inside-left or left half, Jack or Johnny Liddell, joined O's in January 1944 whilst registered with Scottish side Airdrieonians and played in two seasons during the war years. He also made 2 FA Cup appearances for O's against Newport Isle of Wight in November 1945, when O's, were knocked over the two legs by 3-2 on aggregate. He made 1 wartime appearance for Watford in 1943-44 and 2 appearances for Bolton Wanderers in 1944 and 1 appearance for Aldershot 1943-44 and another single appearance with them in 1945-46.

After the war, on 25 November 1946, he joined Gravesend & Northfleet and in August 1948 he was with the newly established Hastings United in the Southern League. He died during March 1986 in Greenwich, London.

Corporal J.G.H.Liddell made 59 appearances, scoring 3 goals for O's. He made 19 appearances with 1 goal in 1943-44, 24 appearances with 2 goals in 1944-45 and 16 appearances in 1945-46. He made his debut at Arsenal on 29 January 1944, before 8 971 spectators, and also played against Reading on 8 April 1944 and at West Ham United on 31 March 1945, a 1-0 defeat and also in a 0-5 defeat to Reading on 18 March 1944 and in a 1-1 draw against Aldershot on 31 December 1944. He also scored in a 5-1 defeat at Millwall on 12 February 1944.

[Thomas Blenkham LIDDLE](#)

Liddle played for O's as a reserve left full-back in a London Combination match during October 1945 and played on the right wing at Crystal Palace reserves on 8 December 1945 but mnever made the first team.

He was born in Middleton-in-Teesdale, Hartlepool, 22 April 1921. He joined his home club Hartlepoons United before moving onto Bournemouth & Boscome Athletic in February 1947 and made his only League appearance for them on 20 September 1947 in a 3-0 defeat at Reading before 14 614 Elm Park fans. He played regularly for the side and played in the Football Combination Cup fional, a 2-1 loss to Leicester City. He moved during June 1948 to Yeovil Town. On leaving football he returned to Bournemouth where he died during November 1994, aged seventy-three.

[Arthur George LIDSWELL](#)

A.G. Lidswell was a reserve amateur inside forward in 1945-46.

[W.A.LINEKER](#)

Inside forward Lineker (also shown as Lincker) appeared for the reserve team at West Ham United on 30 March 1946 and versus West Ham United the following month.

[Eric Stephen LOVE](#)

Half-back Eric Love made 3 wartime appearances for O's, 3 appearances in 1944-45, an appearance at Fulham on 28 October 1944 and in a 0-3 defeat to versus West Ham United on 4 November 1944, also in a 6-1 defeat at Crystal Palace on 11 November 1944, also he made 1 appearance in 1945-46, he was a regular in the reserve side of 1945-46 and scored once in a 13-0 victory over Brentford reserves on 16 December 1944.

Arnold Richardson LOWES

Lowes was born Sunderland, Thursday, 27 February 1919. He started with the Washington Chemical Works Team and then was on the books as an amateur with Sheffield Wednesday in October 1937, making 42 League appearances and netting 8 goals.

He made 1 Wartime appearance, scoring 1 goal for West Ham United on 4 September 1943 against Luton Town and 1 appearance for Watford with a goal on 25 September 1943 in a 3-3 draw at Aldershot. He made 9 appearances with 5 goals in 1943-44 and 2 appearances with 1 goal in 1944-45 for Queens Park Rangers and for Millwall with 1 appearance in 1942-43 and 3 appearances in 1943-44 and with Watford with 1 appearance and 1 goal in 1943-44.

Lowes re-joined Sheffield Wednesday again in 1946, making a further 36 League appearances with 6 goals, he joined Doncaster Rovers in February 1948 as part of a £6 000 deal that took Carrie Jordan to Sheffield, and during his two-year stay, he made 72 League appearances with 3 goals and 2 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals.

He died in Sheffield, 2 July 1994, aged seventy-five.

Lowes made 1 wartime appearance for O's with 1 goal at Queens Park Rangers on 11 December 1943 a 6-2 defeat.

Edward LUCAS

Local amateur inside forward Ted Lucas made a total of 7 wartime appearances for O's, 2 appearances in 1941-42 including a 5-2 defeat Crystal Palace on 11 August 1941 and 4 appearances with 1 goal against Portsmouth in 1942-43 and 1 appearance in 1943-44 and 1 appearance in 1944-45, a 1-1 draw with Alderhot

He was the reserve team's top goalscorer in 1942-43 with 7 goals and scored 1 goal for the first team in a 4-2 win at Charlton Athletic on 8 December 1942. On 16 December 1944 he netted 6 goals for the reserves in a 13-0 victory over Brentford reserves

George Richard LUCAS

Dickie Lucas was born in Leyton, London, 1928, the 5ft 10in and 11st 9lb full back was on O's books from 1942 as a fourteen-year-old, he made a number of wartime appearances a few seasons later, he also appeared in 1 FA Cup tie against Newport Isle of Wight in November 1945.

He later played for Leytonstone, St Albans City in 1948-49, making 39 Isthmian League appearances with 13 goals, 3 FA Cup appearances with 2 goals 5 FA Amateur Cup appearances with 3 goals and 3 Herts Cup games with 1 goal. He then moved to Walthamstow Avenue, making over 150 appearances before being appointed their coach whilst working as a stores clerk in the suburb. He always wore a spinal corset when playing to support his back, wearing strips of plaster over it to ensure it does not come off. He appeared for Avenue in the 1952 FA Amateur Cup final, a 2-1 win over Leyton on 26 April 1952 before 100 000 Wembley Stadium fans. (also, in their team were four other players with O's connections, namely, Gerula, Braham, J.L. Lewis and Rossiter). He also coached them when they again won the FA Amateur Cup final, when defeating Bishop Auckland in 1961. There is no record of his death.

Lucas made 4 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45, including a 3-1 defeat to Charlton Athletic on 23 December 1944, a 1-1 draw against Aldershot on 31 December 1944 a 3-1 defeat at Reading on 6 January 1945 and 1 FA Cup tie appearance in 1945-46.

George Albert LUDFORD

Born Barnet, Herts, 22 March 1915, inside forward George Ludford, joined Tottenham Hotspur as a junior player at the age of fourteen and was associated with Spurs for twenty-seven years. He started with Spurs nursery clubs' Enfield and Northfleet United. During the 1935-36 season, he netted an incredible 106 goals for Northfleet, including six goals twice and five goals on seven occasions.

He signed as a professional for Spurs in May 1936 and given his League debut in August at West Ham United but spent most of his time in the reserves rattling in 72 goals from 82 appearances before the war.

During the war, he appeared for Spurs, 14 appearances with 8 goals in 1939-40 and 42 appearances with 21 goals in 1940-41, 29 appearances with 18 goals in 1941-42, 29 appearances with 20 goals in 1942-43, 14 appearances with 1 goal in 1943-44, 14 appearances with 5 goals in 1944-45 and 30 appearances with 3 goals in 1945-46.

He also was a guest player with Reading, 1 appearance and 1 goal in 1939-40, Southend United with 3 appearances and 6 goals in 1939-40, Fulham with 1 appearance in 1941-42 and 1 appearance in 1942-43, Millwall with 11 appearances with 1 goal in 1944-45 and 3 appearances in 1945-46, Chelsea, 1 appearance in 1943-44, QPR with 1 appearance in 1944-45 and West Ham United in 1944-45 (making 3 appearances with 3 goals including his debut at Clapton Orient on 4 November 1944 with a goal before 10 000 fans, he also appeared at Fulham on 11 November, 2 goals in a 7-4 win and at Southampton on 18 November, a 2-1 defeat). He also featured in the 1945 League South Cup Final at Wembley for Millwall.

He made his final League appearance for Spurs in February 1950 but continued to turn out for other junior Spurs sides and also acted as a coach

until 1954. Post War he made 160 appearances for the reserves and 'A' and 'B' teams and he also made 161 appearances and 63 goals between 1939 and 1946 with Spurs.

In 1957, he was appointed manager of Enfield and in latter years served as their Stadium Manager until his retirement in 1980. He died in Enfield, 2 January 2001, aged eighty-five.

Ludford made 6 wartime appearances for O's in 1943-44, including a 0-5 defeat to Aldershot on 18 March 1944 and a 0-0 draw at Tottenham Hotspur on 29 April 1944.

Francis LUDHAM

Francis Ludham made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1944-45.

George LUNN

Lunn was born Bolton-on-Deane, Yorkshire, Monday, 28 June 1915. The 6ft tall centre half, started off with Frickley Colliery, on 7 May 1938 he played in a reserve match for Aston Villa and signed professional terms soon after. He made a number of wartime appearances with Villa between 1940 and 1942 with 4 reserve appearances in the Birmingham & District League appearances, Watford with 1 appearance in 1940-41, Chester, Doncaster Rovers, Fulham with 1 appearance in 1940-41, Northampton Town with 1 appearance in 1941-42, Rochdale with 1 appearance in 1945-46, Southport, with 5 appearances in 1944-45, Stockport County with 1 appearance in 1944-45 and Wrexham with 1 appearance in 1944-45.

He joined Birmingham City in June 1946 without playing any League matches and then re-joined Watford in October 1947 making 5 League appearances.

In 1949, the twenty-seven year old joined Bedford Town from Kidderminster Harriers, making 26 appearances with 0 goals before his contract was cancelled in May 1950 after an incident with the manager against Yeovil Town. He then had an unsuccessful one month trial with Halifax Town in August 1950 and then September 1951 he was with Rugby Town, thereafter he left football.

He died in Birmingham during January 2000, aged eighty-four.

Lunn made 7 wartime appearances for O's, 6 League and 1 London Cup 'B' Division appearances in 1940-41

MACILROY

A local amateur player named MacIlroy made 1 apperance in the London Cup 'B' Division during 1940-41.

K. MAGSON

He played at outside left agasinst Charlton Athletic on 23 December 1944, a 1-3 defeat.

MANCINI

A reserve player who scored 2 goals in the 1942-43 season, No not Terry or his brother Michael?

Graham MARRIOTT

Graham Marriott (also shown as Merriott) made 6 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46.

Frederick Albert MARTIN

Born in Nottingham, 13 December 1925, he was registered with Nottingham Forest during the war years and after the war Fred Martin made 5 League appearances for Forest in the 1947-48 season. In 1949 he joined Peterborough United.

Martin made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46.

McDONALD

A local amateur player with the surname of McDonald, not Terry, who made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1941-42.

Geroge Albert Charles McILWREATH

An O's reserve amateur defender in April and May 1944

McILWROTH

He was a goalkeeper who played for O's in a London War Football League match at Crystal Palace on 11 October 1941, losing 2-0.

James Sime McLUCKIE

Jimmy McLuckie was born Stonehouse, Lanarkshire, Scotland, 2 April 1908. The 5ft 7½in and 11st bald headed left half / left winger started off with Tranent Junior before joining Hamilton Academical in 1928. He joined Manchester City in February 1933 for £6 500, making his debut on 26 August 1933 versus Sheffield Wednesday and went onto make 32 League appearances, scoring 1 goal, 5 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals and 1 FA Charity Shield appearance on 28 November 1934, a 4-0 loss to Arsenal at Highbury before 10 888 midweek fans.

He gained his one and only Scottish full international cap when with Man. City, playing against Wales on 4 October 1933, a 3-2 victory before 40 000 fans.

He moved to Aston Villa in December 1934 but after just 15 League appearances and 1 goal, he moved to Ipswich Town in July 1937 making 41 Southern League appearances, scoring once.

During the war years he guested for Chelmsford City while being registered to Ipswich Town with 3 appearances in 1939-40 and 17 appearances with 0 goals in 1945-46 and worked in a local brewery. He also made 2 appearances with 0 goals for Queens Park Rangers in 1943-44 and 1 appearance with Norwich City in 1939-40 and 8 appearances with 1 goal in 1940-41.

He captained Ipswich in their debut season in the Football League during the 1938-39 season, making a total of 124 appearances in all competition, scoring 12 goals, he worked briefly at Portman Road in the club office and then as a scout. He finished his career with Clacton Town as player - manager (in July 1947) and later a coach.

He died in Edinburgh, Scotland during November 1986, aged seventy-eight.

(Not to be confused with the footballer George Robertson McLuckie who was born in Falkirk on 19 September 1901, and between 1953 and 1958 also played for Ipswich Town).

McLuckie who captivated the O's fans with with his fast pace and fancy footwork made a total of 21 wartime appearances for O's scoring 1 goal. He made 5 appearances with one goal in 1942-43 and 16 appearances in 1943-44

Alexander Brown McMURDO

Alex McMurdo was born in Cleland, a small village near Motherwell, North Lanarkshire, Scotland, 9 April 1914. The right winger / inside forward started off his career with West Calder FC before joining Bury for the 1935-36 season making just a single league appearance. The following season he was with Queen of the South. He joined Rochdale in July 1937 making 2 League appearances, the first against York City on 28 August 1937 and then on 7 September 1937 against Tranmere Rovers, both games were 0-0 draws. In June 1939 he acted as a player and treasurer for the Cleland Football Club.

The thirty-one year old joined O's on 11 September 1945, a free transfer from Motherwell having earlier played for Airdrieonians. There are no death records available.

McMurdo made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46

James Law McNEIL

Jimmy McNeil (sometimes spelt McNeill), was born in Inverkeithling, Fife, Scotland, 1906, he started off with the Bo'ness club, in September 1925 he signed for Heart of Midlothian, making 29 Scottish League appearances with 18 goals. In December 1928 he came south to sign for Portsmouth, with 12 league appearances with 5 goals In August 1934, he moved to Plymouth Argyle and went to make 145 appearances with 13 goals.

The experienced 5ft 11in and 12st 6lb centre half joined O's on 12 May 1939, signed on a free transfer by boss Tom Halsey, after skipping Plymouth Argyle for five years. The thirty-three-year-old was also a PE instructor in the RAF. He made three appearances in the expunged 1939-40 League season for O's.

He made 1 wartime appearance for Watford in 1944-45. After retiring, he had a long managerial career with Merthyr Town, Torquay United, Bury before retiring in 1953 and returned to live in Fife.

He died in, Fife during 2002 aged ninety-one.

McNeil made 4 wartime appearances for O's, scoring 4 goals. He made 2 appearances with 4 goals in 1940-41 (including a hat trick v Arsenal, a 3-3 draw on 1 February 1941 and also a goal the following week at Arsenal, a 15-2 defeat (YES, fifteen)).

Leslie Dennis MEDLEY

Born in Lower Edmonton, north London, 3 September 1920, Les Medley attended Silver Street Junior School and Laymer School, both in Edmonton. As a schoolboy he represented Edmonton, London, Middlesex and England Schools.

The outside left started off with Tottenham Hotspur as a junior, before signing amateur forms in September 1939 and soon showed a gift of acceleration with tight ball control. He moved to their nursery club Northfleet, helping them to win the Kent League Cup in 1938 and the Kent League championship the following season. He became a professional at White Hart Lane in February 1939.

During WW2, he served in Canada with the RAF, where he met his future wife.

There were long periods when back in England that he guested for Millwall with 2 appearances in 1944-45, Aldershot with 2 appearances with 1 goal in 1945-46, Tottenham Hotspur, making 64 WW2 appearances with 19 goals and West Ham United with just a single appearance and a goal against Brighton on 13 January 1945 in a 5-4 victory.

He returned to Spurs in 1948 and two years later was part of their Second Division championship winning side, netting 18 goals. It was during this period that he won all his six England international caps.

He made a total of 165 senior appearances for Spurs with 47 goals and was at White Hart Lane for a total of seventeen years. He gained his six full England caps against Wales, Yugoslavia, France, Wales, Ireland and Austria between 1950 and 1951. He also represented the Rest of the UK against Wales in a celebration match in 1951.

Medley after retiring as a English league footballer returned to Canada in the summer of 1953 and played for Toronto Greenbacks and Toronto Ulster United. In 1958, he began a three-year spell in South Africa with the Wanderers Club and as Player-Manager with Randfontein FC both based in Johannesburg.

During the early sixties he was back in Canada but returned to England in 1953 for his old teammate Eddie Bailey's benefit and settled in Horsham but after his wife Thelma's death in 1962, but again returned to Ontario Canada and ran a fish and chip shop for fifteen years until his death.

He died at the Mount Hope Nursing Home in London, Ontario, Canada on 22 February 2001, aged 80 years and 172 days.

Medley made 2 wartime appearances for O's, scoring two goals against Norwich City in 1945-46.

George MEEK

He was a reserve full-back in 1945-46.

Harold George MERRITT

Harry Meritt was born in Ormskirk, Lancashire, Wednesday, 22 September 1920, he joined Everton on schoolboy terms in 1932, but left in 1945 having only played for the reserve side. He joined the Army in 1939.

A 5ft 8in and 11st 2lb inside forward who joined O's in 1945 and was unfortunate to have scored an own goal when O's went out over two-legs to Newport Isle of Wight in the FA Cup, 3-2 on aggregate. He was a reserve player with O's in 1946-47, making with just 1 League appearance. He was also a regular for the reserve London Combination team.

He returned to Margate and played once on Boxing Day 1947, he later played for Yeovil Town, Trobridge, Dorchester Town, Poole Town and Longfield St Mary's before retiring in 1954. He died in Poole, Dorset, Friday, 19 March 2004, aged eighty-three.

Merritt made 6 wartime appearances, his debut came in November 1945, when making a goal for Les Gore in a 1-0 win over Northampton Town, also scoring once, again against Northampton Town, a 2-1 win on 13 April 1946, before 10 900 Brisbane Road fans. He also played in a 2-0 defeat at Watford on 19 April 1946 in a Third Division Cup, north region match.

Peter MOLLOY

Molloy was born in Rossendale, Lancashire, 20 April 1909. Pete Molloy was a half back who started off as an amateur with Accrington Stanley in 1930, he joined Fulham in August 1931, turning professional the following December, making 4 League appearances.

He moved to Bristol Rovers on 18 May 1933 and after just 6 League matches and 1 FA Cup appearance he moved onto Cardiff City during February 1934 making a further 23 League and 2 FA Cup appearances without scoring.

In July 1935, he was on the books of QPR, with 3 appearances. July 1936 saw him with Stockport County making 10 League appearances and 2 Division Three North Cup appearances. The following season at Carlisle United ended more productively with 33 League appearances.

In the 1938-39 season, he was with Bradford City playing a further 25 matches. He also won a Division Three North Cup winners medal when City defeated Accrington Stanley 3-0 on 1 May 1939.

During the war years he served in the Army and he was a guest player with Bradford City making 64 appearances with 2 goals between 1939 and 1944, Accrington Stanley with 26 appearances and 0 goals between 1944 and 1946, Watford with 1 appearance and 0 goals in 1942-43, Chelsea with 1 appearance and 0 goals in 1939-40, Hartlepool United with 1 appearance and 0 goals in 1939-40 and Rochdale with 4 appearances and 0 goals in September 1945.

He ended his career in 1946 as player-manager with Kettering Town from the Birmingham & District League.

He later managed Turkish club Galatasaray between 1947 and 1949, and later was head coach for two spells for the Turkish National side in 1948 to May 1949 with a record of W5, D0 L2 F9 A8 and between May and October 1950 with a record of P2 W1 D0 L1 F7A6, a 6-1 win over Iran and a 5-1 loss to Israel. He then went on to manage Fenerbahçe from 1949. He also became a noted referee whilst in Turkey.

In 1951, he returned to England in 1951 to work as trainer with Watford and stayed at the club until 1976. In 1968 he was awarded a benefit match against Luton Town and in 1973 he was given a testimonial against Wolverhampton Wanderers.

{He is often confused with another player named Peter 'Paddy' Molloy, he was born in Athlone, Ireland and played in Ireland for Lisburn Distillery, Ballymena and Dundalk and a single appearance in the Football League with Notts County in 1947. He also represented the League of Ireland and the Irish League between 1943 and 1947, Paddy Molloy died in Athlone on 30 November 1972).

He died in St Albans, Herts, 16 February 1993, aged eighty-three.

Molloy made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1943-44, one being on 4 September 1943 in a 5-2 defeat at Crystal Palace.

[Stanley William James MONTGOMERY](#)

He was born in Silvertown, near West Ham, east London, 7 July 1920. The strong, foraging centre half commenced his career with Romford FC before joining Hull City in 1945, making 10 WW2 appearances with 4 goals. He also made 5 League appearances. He joined Southend United on September 1946 and during his two-year stay made 96 League matches with 7 goals and 4 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals. In November 1948 after representing an FA X1 against the Army, he then signed for Cardiff City in December 1948 for £6 000, notching 4 goals (1 pen) from 231 League appearances helping the Welshmen to promotion to Division One in 1951-52. He also played for the Welsh League versus the League of Ireland in 1953.

After a short spell in 1955 with non-league Worcester City, the thirty-five-year old Montgomery signed for Newport County in November 1955, making 9

League appearances. He ended his playing career with Llanelli FC in October 1956 and finally with Ton Pentre between March and May 1956.

Montgomery was another of the footballing - cricketers; the right handed batsman played for Essex 2nd's and then for Glamorgan between 1949 and 1953 and scored 117 runs in only his second game against Hampshire. He played 29 matches for Glamorgan with 43 innings, scoring 763 runs with an average of 18.68, he also took 6 wickets from 22 balls.

After retiring from playing, he was a coach with Cardiff City, and then a sports advisor to the Boys Clubs of Wales and later he became a scout covering south Wales for Bristol Rovers before returning to Cardiff City to look after the clubs triallists. In later life he was a cricket and swimming coach at Cardiff University, Bradfield School and at Awymondham College.

He died in hospital in Cardiff, Wales, 5 October 2000 after a short illness, aged eighty.

Montgomery made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1940-41

[Frank George MORRAD](#)

Frank Morrad was born in Brentford, Middlesex, Saturday, 28 February 1920, he started as a junior with Brentford in 1936, then played for Southall and Notts County, with 2 league appearances and 0 goals.

A strong 5ft 9ins and 12st 11lb centre forward or inside left who joined O's in 1944, he later played in one League season with O's in 1946-47, making 25 appearances with 11 goals., his debut came against Northampton Town, a 4-1 defeat in November 1946. His best game was when scoring a brace of goals against both Reading and Brighton & Hove Albion in February and March 1947, he also netted O's fifth goal in an exciting 5-3 victory over Port Vale in April.

He made 2 WW2 appearances for Arsenal and 2 appearances Crystal Palace and also 13 appearances with 5 goals for Notts County in WW2 in the 1944-46 season and 7 appearances in 1945-46 season. In August 1947 he signed for Fulham, but it was in 1948, with Brighton & Hove Albion that he made his mark making 43 League appearances with 3 goals. He ended his career with Southern League side Bedford Town in 1950, with 59 appearances, before retiring in June 1954.

On leaving football, he became the owner of a chain of betting shops in the Hounslow area of west London and he was involved in whippet racing. He died in Mijas, Costa Del Sol, Malaga, Spain, Monday, 13 July 1981, aged sixty-one.

Morrad made a total of 16 wartime appearances for O's, he made 13 appearances with 1 goal against Millwall in 1944-45 and also appeared in a 1-0 defeat against Portsmouth on 3 February 1945 and a 1-0 defeat at West Ham

United on 31 March 1945, a 1-1 draw with Crystal Palace on 13 April 1945 and in a 4-0 defeat at Tottenham Hotspur on 21 April 1945 and 3 appearances, scoring 1 goal against Mansfield Town in 1945-46.

Amos MOSS

Born in Aston, Birmingham, 28 August 1921, son of Frank Moss Senior and younger brother of Frank Moss Junior, he was educated at the Burlington Street School in Aston.

Moss, a wing half, started as a junior with the Birmingham Boys Club before joining Aston Villa on amateur forms in May 1937, going onto make 102 League appearances with 5 goals and 7 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals for Villa between 1946 and June 1956. He made his League debut for Villa on 25 December 1946 against Huddersfield Town.

He saw active service on the battlefields of Europe and was rarely available to play football.

During the 1940-41 War season he did make 8 guest appearances with 0 goals for Villa. He also made brief guest appearances for Gateshead, Leeds United with 8 appearances between October 1942 and March 1943 in the Football League Northern Section, (first and second championship), and Wrexham with 1 appearance in 1944-45.

Moss was sold by Villa to Kettering Town in June 1956, helping them to win the Southern League title with 45 appearances and 3 goals, and later played for Midland League side Wisbech Town, Kidderminster Harriers and finally with Rugby Town. During the early 1960s he had a brief spell as manager of Kidderminster Harriers.

He then became a salesman, a job he held until retiring in 1991, he then continued to work at a newsagents owned by former West Brom footballer Bobby Hope until the end of 2003.

He died in Birmingham, 8 April 2004, aged eighty-three.

Moss made 3 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46.

Alexander MUIR

Right half Alex Muir also played for a few London based clubs in WW2, including Fulham 3 appearances in 1942-43, Brentford with 2 appearances in 1942-43 and Crystal Palace with 1 appearance in 1945 and Tottenham Hotspur with 1 appearance in 1942-43.

Muir made 1 appearance for O's on 6 January 1945 at Reading, a 3-1 defeat.

Hubert MULLER

An amateur player named Hubert Muller made 1 appearance for O's in the London Cup 'B' Division during 1940-41. He also made a single appearance for Millwall in the 1942-43 season.

Ambrose Aloysius MULRANEY

Born in Wishaw, North Lanarkshire, Scotland, 18 May 1916, Jock Mulraney, a 5ft 7in and 9st 2lb right winger started his career as a Scottish schoolboy triallist representing the Scottish Alliance X1 in 1934, having played for Wishaw White Rose and Carlisle Rovers before signing for Glasgow Celtic, where he was unable to break into their first team. He underwent trials with a number of clubs including Heart of Midlothian, Hamilton Academicals, Sligo Rovers in Ireland, Blackpool and finally Clapton Orient in March and April 1935 without gaining a contract.

He eventually signed for Dartford in June 1935 before joining Ipswich Town in November 1936, making 33 Southern League and Cup appearances, scoring 10 goals. He also made 28 League appearances with 8 goals and 5 FA Cup appearances with 2 goals.

Mulraney became the first Ipswich Town player ever to score a hat trick in a Football League match, this against Bristol City in April 1939. During the war years he guested for Brighton & Hove Albion, making 1 wartime appearance in 1941-42, Ipswich Town with 3 appearances and 1 goal in 1939-40, Charlton Athletic with 6 appearances and 3 goals in 1942-43, Hibernian, Blackburn Rovers with 1 appearance in 1939-40, Leicester City with 1 appearance in 1941-42, Norwich City in 1941-42, making 1 appearance, Manchester City making 6 appearances with 3 goals in 1940-41, Third Lanark, Wolverhampton Wanderers with 4 appearances in 1942-43, Northampton Town in 1942-43 with 4 appearances with 1 goal and Birmingham City for whom he made 118 wartime appearances with 41 goals and played a major part in their run to the FA Cup Final in 1945-46 with 8 goals from 14 appearances. He also won a Football League (south) championship medal.

He served for five years in the RAF as a PT Instructor rising to the rank of Flight Sergeant. After his Demob from the RAF in October 1945, he joined Birmingham City for a fee of £3 750, making 28 League appearances with 9 goals between 1946 and 1947.

During July 1947 he joined non-league Shrewsbury Town for whom he won a Midland League championship medal and a year later he was with Kidderminster Harriers. In August 1948 he made a surprise move back into the Football League with Aston Villa, making a further 12 League appearances with 2 goals.

In July 1949 he was appointed player-manager of Cradley Heath in the Birmingham & District League where he stayed for three-years, and in the 1952-53 season he was manager with Brierley Hill Alliance.

He spent over twenty years in the game but made just 67 Football League appearances for Ipswich Town, Birmingham City and Aston Villa with 18 goals.

In 1968 he suffered a heart attack but recovered to live in Kinver, Staffordshire where he was a shopkeeper, until his death in the town from a second heart attack in the summer of 2001, aged eighty-five.

Mulraney made 1 wartime appearance in 1939, the very first home match after the commencement of World War One, a 1-6 defeat to Arsenal on 29 October 1939 before 8 000 fans.

Ernest MUTTITT

Ernie Muttitt was born in Middlesbrough, 24 July 1908 and was baptised on 9 August 1909 at St Peters Church in Middlesbrough. He was a fast left or right winger, he also played during his career at inside forward and left back. Muttitt started with the South Bank Club before joining Middlesbrough in 1929, staying for three-years, making 20 League appearances, scoring three goals for Boro', one on his debut at Arsenal.

He joined Brentford in 1932 and over six-seasons which saw the Bees remarkably rise from the Third Division right upto the First Division, making 92 League appearances with 25 goals including a hat-trick in a 5-2 victory at Newcastle United in 1934.

On 17 February 1937, he married Gladys Eileen Battie in Ealing, London, they had two boys namely John Muttitt born 31 May 1938 and Robert James Muttitt born 8 August 1947.

During War years he made 77 appearances with 5 goals for Brentford between 1939 and 1945, 1 appearances for Charlton Athletic in 1941-42, 2 wartime appearances for West Ham United, scoring 0 goals on 9 January 1943 at Chelsea, a 3-1 win before 8 585 fans and on 5 February 1944 versus Southampton, a 4-1 win before 7 500 fans, Millwall, Crystal Palace with 2 appearances in 1942, Aldershot with 2 appearances and 2 goals in 1942-43, Queens Park Rangers, Southend United, Chelsea with 1 appearance each and 0 goals in 1944-45, and Colchester United, whom he appeared on loan for one match from Brentford on 13 April 1946 playing at Guildford City, a 5-2 defeat, aged 37 years and 263 days.

He also guested for Brighton & Hove Albion in 1943-44, making 2 wartime appearances and Reading making 1 appearance in 1941-42 and 2 appearances in 1943-44 and for Watford with 1 appearance against Charlton Athletic on 9 October 1943, a 2-2 draw and a further appearance in 1944-45. He also played regularly for Fulham between 1939 and 1945 with 30 wartime appearances, scoring 4 goals

After the war, he played for both Dartford and Dover Athletic between September 1947 to May 1948. He remained an avid Brentford supporter, living close to the Braemar Road ground and shouting for the team from the Ealing Road terrace. In May 2015 he was voted into the Brentford Hall of Fame.

He died in Brentford, 8 August 1996, aged eighty-eight.

Muttitt made 3 wartime appearance for O's, 1 appearance in 1940-41, scoring once in a 2-2 draw at Brentford in August 1940 and 2 appearances in 1943-44.

Joseph Bernard NAIRN

The Swansea Town registered centre forward, Joe Nairn, who was born in Swansea on 4 November 1916, made 1 wartime appearance for O's against Luton Town on 9 September 1944. He returned to Wales and died in south Glamorgan during October 1998, just before his eighty-second birthday.

NAUGHTON

A reserve player from the 1944-45 season.

Frederick Robert NEEDHAM

Fred Needham was born in Rotherham, 12 September 1912, a centre half who was registered with Stockport County during the War years, also made 1 appearance for Watford in 1943-44 and 3 wartime appearances for Brighton & Hove Albion in 1944-45, but he never appeared in the Football League. He died in his native Rotherham during May 1989, aged seventy-six.

Needham made 5 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45 including one game versus Tottenham Hotspur on 18 November 1944, replacing the injured Fred Bartlett in a 2-0 defeat before 7 500 spectators and also against Charlton Athletic on 23 December 1944.

David NELSON

Wing half and outside left David Nelson was born in Douglas Water, Scotland, 3 February 1918 and older brother of James Park Nelson, who also played for Glasgow Celtic.

David Nelson started his career with Douglas Water Thistle and also St Bernard's. In May 1936 he came south at the age of eighteen for £200 to join Arsenal and during his first season he made 8 League appearances with 3 goals, his debut coming in a 3-1 win against Preston North End on 28 December 1936. In the 1938-39 season he made a further 9 League appearances with 1 goal. In the 1945-46 season he played in 2 FA Cup ties. He also appeared in 95 London Combination reserve appearances and won three Combination titles between 1937 and 1939 for the Gunners.

During the war years he made a guest appearance for Glasgow Celtic on 3 January 1942 in a 2-1 Scottish Regional League 3 victory over Clyde replacing his brother who was dropped.

He was then stationed at Colchester Garrison where he served as a Serjeant in the Army, he made a guest appearances for Colchester United firstly on 6 October 1945, a 1-0 win over Cheltenham, and a final appearance came on 11 April 1946, a 1-1 draw against Chelmsford City, making a total of 3 Southern League appearances, 1 FA Cup appearance and 2 Southern League Cup appearances without scoring. He made 1 appearance for Tottenham Hotspur in 1942-43 and 1 appearance in 1943-44 and 4 appearances for Brentford in 1943-44.

However, during the war years he also made 161 appearances for Arsenal being a stalwart over seven seasons with 25 goals.

After the war he returned to Highbury making a further 10 League appearances, his final game came on 9 November 1946 a 2-0 defeat against Preston North End.

After ten-years at Highbury he moved to Fulham in December 1946, as part of the deal that took prolific goalscorer Ronie Rooke to Arsenal. He made his debut on Christmas Day, a 4-2 defeat at Newport County. His final appearance came on 14 June 1947, a 1-1 draw at Millwall. He made 23 League appearances with 4 goals and 1 FA Cup appearance with 0 goals.

He left Craven Cottage during July 1947 and signed for Brentford the following month. He stayed three seasons with Brentford making 106 League appearances, scoring 5 goals (1 pen).

In February 1950 he signed for Queens Park Rangers in an exchange deal for William Pointon, making his debut on 18 February, a 1-3 defeat to Sheffield United and stayed for three seasons, although he never featured in his final term and after making a total of 31 League appearances with 0 goals and 1 appearance in the FA Cup, he moved to Crystal Palace in March 1952 but was a fringe player with just 6 appearances in each of his two seasons at Selhurst Park. He moved onto Ashford Town in 1953.

During the late 1950s he emigrated to the United States to work at a St Louis car plant. Although living in Greenwich, Fairfield, Connecticut, he died when he was on an out of State visit in West Haven, New York, USA on 27 September 1988, aged seventy.

Nelson made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

[Albert Norman NEWMAN](#)

Amateur centre forward Bert Newman appeared twice for O's, firstly in a 4-4 home draw with Watford on 7 October 1944 before 2 000 spectators and in a 4-0 defeat at Tottenham Hotspur on 21 April 1945 before 10 317 fans.

[NICHOLLS](#)

An amateur player with the surname of Nicholls (first name not listed) made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1941-42. He also netted 2 goals for the reserve team in 1942-43.

[John Jack OAKES](#)

A centre half who was on a one month trial with O's from October 1931, but he never won a contract, he was known as Jack Oakes during his footballing days.

He was born in Winsford, Cheshire, Wednesday, 13 September 1905, he grew up in North Ormesby. He started his career with Chilton Colliery Recreation

Athletic in May 1928. He became a steel worker and played his early football with works teams Cargo Fleet and Cochranes.

In August 1929, he signed for Nottingham Forest, making 2 League appearances. In 1930 he signed for Newark Town and then Crook Town before going to O's on trial in October 1930 but never made it Lea Bridge Road and returned to Crook Town. In May 1931 he signed for Southend United but during the season he made just 2 League appearances.

He moved back into non-league football in 1933 with Crook Town and Spennymoor United where he also worked as a police officer in Middlesbrough, before returning to the football league action with Aldershot in August 1934 where he had a good couple of seasons making 61 League appearances and scoring 19 goals.

In March 1936 he signed for second division Charlton Athletic for £1 144 and remained on their books for eleven years. During his time at the Valley he won a winners' war time Cup medal and won one 'unofficial' wartime England cap in 1940 versus Wales.

He appeared in Charlton's team surprisingly defeated at Clapton Orient 3-0 in the FA Cup on 11 January 1936, also in their team was another former O's man in Frank Rist.

Before the start of WW2, he had made 122 League appearances with 3 goals (1 pen). He made 203 Wartime appearances for Charlton Athletic with 4 goals between 1939 and 1946.

During the War years he was a guest player for a number of clubs including: Brentford, Hartlepool United with 1 appearance in 1945-46, Tottenham Hotspur with 1 appearance on 9 February 1944 at Reading, Crystal Palace and Millwall with 1 appearance in 1942-43 and 1 appearance in 1944-45. He also made a remarkable 203 war time appearances for Charlton with 4 goals.

In 1946 he won two FA Cup finalists' medals at the age of forty years and 226 days when losing to Derby County 4-1 (aet) in the Wembley Final before a 98 000 crowd. Both teams were awarded bronze medals but later that year they were also given gold medals when the metal became more available.

After the war he returned to the Valley making 6 further League appearances before signing for Plymouth Argyle in July 1947 being made captain. His debut came on 23 August 1947, a 6-1 defeat at Newcastle United in a second division fixture before 52 642 St James Park fans.

The forty-two year olds' final appearance for Plymouth came on 1 May 1948, a 2-2 draw with Bradford Park Avenue in total he made 36 League appearances and 1 FA Cup appearance giving very solid performances at the heart of the defence.

In 1947, he moved into management with Snowden Colliery Welfare before becoming head trainer with Gravesend & Northfleet. In later years he coached extensively in Sweden and later he worked in a number of paper mills in both USA and Australia

He died in Perth, Australia during March 1992, aged eighty-six.

Oakes made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44

Walter Reginald ODELL

Born in Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, 19 March 1912, the attacking 5ft 8in and 11st 7lb half back or left winger Walter Odell (sometimes incorrectly spelt as O'Dell) started playing football with Caldercote Schools as a centre forward. He joined Sandy Albion in the Bedford League as a fifteen year old in 1927, two years later he moved to Biggleswade Town.

1931 saw him with Hitchin Town and he stayed for a number of seasons. He also represented Hertfordshire who beat Somerset 5-0.

He signed on amateur forms with Tottenham Hotspur in June 1935. He did not make any senior appearances at White Hart Lane, his entire time at White Hart Lane was spent playing for the 'A' team (3rd XI) and nursery club Northfleet United and appeared for them when they won the Kent League Division championship in both 1935-36 and 1936-37.

On 26 June 1937 he signed for Third Division North side Wrexham and made 40 League appearances in 1937-38 and 21 League appearances the following season, without finding the net. He also made 3 FA Cup, 2 Welsh Cup and 2 Northern Section Cup appearances.

In May 1939 he signed with Darlington and played in the first 3 League games of the aborted 1939-40 season when all records were expunged.

During the war he guested for his old club Tottenham Hotspur, making 14 appearances with 1 goal. After the war he retired from playing football to become trainer-coach of Letchworth Town and stayed for three seasons but his job as publican of the Ye Olde George Inn in Ickleford, near Hitchin Herts caused him to give up his coaching career, however, in 1951 he was back with Hitchin Town as part-time coach and trainer.

In later years he managed the Crauford Hotel, Wolverton, Bucks, the Embankment Hotel, Bedford and finally The Half Moon in Bedford.

He died in Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, 27 July 1971, aged fifty-nine. His remaining family all lived in the Miton Keynes area.

Odell made a total of 55 wartime appearances for O's, whilst registered with Darlington, between 1941 and 1945, scoring 13 goals. He made 21 appearances with 5 goals in 1941-42, 15 appearances with 3 goals in 1942-43, including 1

Cup North goal against Queens Park Rangers in a 1-1 draw on 20 March 1943 and 19 appearances with 5 goals in 1944-45

George OLDHAM

Left full back George Oldham was born in Tintwhistle, Derbyshire, 20 April 1920. He started off with Mottram Central before joining Stoke City on amateur forms in 1938, making 2 League appearances. During the War years he made 1 appearance with Aldershot in 1943-44.

After the war he joined Newport County in September 1946, and during his two season with them he made 63 League appearances in both the Second Division and after relegation in Third Division South, he ended his playing career with Hitchin Town in 1949.

He died in Luton, Bedfordshire during 1993, aged seventy-three.

Oldham made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46.

John ORMANDY

The Southend United 5ft 7in and 11st outside left Jackie Ormandy, who was supposed to be in Leyton and was down on the O's teamsheet (a pink printed programme) on 20 November 1943 to play against Fulham, however due to unforeseen circumstances, his train was cancelled, and he never got to make his O's debut. He was not seen again. Instead Walter Odell moved from inside left onto the wing with Jimmy McLuckie moving inside.

Born in Knotty Ash, an area of Liverpool, 25 January 1912, as a schoolboy he represented both Lancashire and Liverpool Schoolboys. He started off his career with Prescott Cables and combined his playing, working as an apprentice designer, before moving to Bradford City in 1932 where he made 63 League appearances with 9 goals. In 1936 he moved to Bury making 87 League appearances and netting 18 goals.

In 1939 he was with Southend United, making 3 appearances with 1 goal before War interrupted football. He made 36 WW2 appearances with 10 goals. In the 1945-46 season he made 3 appearances for Southend with 0 goals. (between 1941 and May 1945 Southend did not compete in wartime football).

After the the War, he joined Oldham Athletic making 37 League appearances and 5 goals. 1937 saw him with Halifax Town with 7 League appearances and 0 goals. In 1955 he was appointed the Bradford City reserve coach. On retirement he resided in the Wrose area of Bradford.

He died in Dewsbury, 8 January 1997 aged eighty-four.

Jonathan OWEN

Left winger Johnny Owen, a Londoner, joined O's from local football and made one appearance in the FA Cup against Newport Isle of Wight. He played in one of the FA Cup legs against Newport Isle of Wight in November

1945, O's going out 2-3 on aggregate. He also appeared regularly for the reserve team in 1945 but was released in May 1946.

Owen made 7 war time appearances for O's in 1945-46 including appearances on 22 September 1945, a 5-3 defeat at Walsall and at Port Vale on 13 October 1945, a 4-0 defeat before 7000 fans and against Northampton Town on 3 November 1945, a 1-0 win before 6500 fans.

Albert Edward PAGE

The Tottenham Hotspur centre half made a few reserve appearances for O's in WW2.

He was born in Walthamstow, east London, 18 March 1901 and he supported O's as a youngster. He started his career with Leyton FC before joining Tottenham Hotspur in January 1936, he made 55 League appearances with 0 goals. During the war years he represented the Army and also played for Colchester United and Gillingham but returned to White Hart Lane in 1946. He later played for Colchester United and Chingford Town. He went on to become a postman in Walthamstow and later a caretaker in an office complex

He died in Walthamstow, London during January 1995.

Leslie PALMER

Les Palmer, a wing half was born in Barrow, 16 December 1923. After the war he played for local side Holker C.O.B. before joining Barrow in October 1949, making 1 League appearance. He died in his native Barrow during December 2003, aged eighty.

Palmer made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46.

Henry Harold PARR

The 5ft 9in and 11st 7lb inside right Harry Parr who was born Saturday, 23 October 1915

He made 1 WW2 appearance for Millwall in 1942-43, and also played Notts County and Peterborough United, the thirty-year-old joined O's in July 1945, signed by his uncle, O's boss Willie Hall, whilst serving in the RAF, having played for Ransome & Marles, and then Newark.

He appeared in both legs of the FA Cup ties versus Newport Isle of Wight in November 1945, scoring a penalty in the 2-1 home victory, but O's went out of the FA Cup 2-3 on aggregate. He left for Lincoln City on 29 August 1946, having secured a job with the local Post Office, making his debut two days later at Hull City in a 0-0 draw and his final appearance came on 23 September 1950 versus Halifax Town in a 3-1 victory, both in the Division 3 North. He made 112 League appearances with 13 goals and 16 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals for Lincoln and was ever present in their Third Division north title winning campaign of 1947-48. In 1951, he was appointed coach at the club.

He died in West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire during June 2004, aged eighty-three.

Parr made 19 wartime appearances, scoring 8 goals for O's in 1945-46, the goals were against Ipswich Town, Northampton Town, Notts. County, Watford, Norwich City, Watford in the Cup (twice) and Southend United. He also appeared regularly for the reserve side.

Charles PARRY

Forward Charles Parry made 1 wartime appearance for O's, scoring once against Luton Town in 1943-44.

Oswald PARRY

Ossie Parry was born in Dowlais, Wales, 16 August 1908, before the war the 5ft 11in and 11st 9lb left back was with Wimbledon in 1930-31 and Crystal Palace between May 1931 and June 1936, making 142 League and 8 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals. His league debut came at Brighton & Hove Albion on 9 September 1931, a 3-0 Division Three south victory.

He joined Ipswich Town on 15 June 1936 making his Southern League debut against Tunbridge Wells Rovers on 29 August 1936 in a 4-1 victory and his FA Cup debut was against Eastern Counties United on 19 September 1936 in a Preliminary Round, winning 7-0.

During the War years he made 5 appearances in 1930-40 with Norwich City and 4 appearances with them in 1940-41, 1 appearance for Queens Park Rangers in 1943-44. In the 1945-46 season for Ipswich he made 4 Cup appearances, 33 appearances in war time matches and 1 reserve appearance without scoring.

He became the clubs' first ever professional player and he played in Ipswich's first ever Football League game on 27 August 1938 at Portman Road against Southend United ending in a 4-2 win.

After the War he was back with Ipswich, making 48 League appearances, 1 Cup appearances and 9 reserve appearances with 0 goals. His final League appearance came on 7 May 1949 at Brighton & Hove Albion.

He also played in 62 Southern League games with 0 goals, 1 Southern League Championship match, 2 Southern Cup appearance , 4 Hospital Cup appearances and 3 Norfolk Jubilee Cup appearances, all without scoring.

During the war years he also guested for Chelmsford City and Norwich City he also made 1 guest appearance for Fulham in 1941-42 and 1 appearance for Queens Park Rangers in 1943-44.

He retired from playing in June 1950 to work in the local Cobbald's Brewery.

Parry died in Ipswich during 1991.

Oswald Parry made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1941-42.

William PARRY

Bill Parry was born in Denaby, near Doncaster, Yorkshire in 1917. The 5ft 9in and 12st left half back started off in the Midland League in 1933 as a sixteen year old with Mexborough, before joining Denaby United in July 1936, moving to Midland League side Frickley Colliery the following summer.

Bill Parry was picked-up by Leeds United on 28 October 1937, making 6 Division One League appearances and 2 FA Cup appearances. He made his league debut versus Chelsea on 26 December 1938 and in the FA Cup his debut came in a 3-1 win on 11 January 1939 over Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic.

His final appearance was on 11 February 1939, a 1-0 FA Cup defeat against Middlesbrough before being released in June 1938 when they had a surplus of good defenders, having stayed at Elland Road for three-years.

He moved down south and although Reading showed an interest in him, he joined Southern League side Chelmsford City in June 1939 and was registered with them during the war years. He made a total of 132 appearances with 0 goals for the Essex side. In 1949 he was appointed player-coach of Halstead Town, making 75 appearances with 0 goals when he left in 1951 to become reserve team trainer with Chelmsford City, in 1953 he was the first team trainer until leaving in 1962 due to ill health.

He also appeared as a WW2 guest player with Southend United with 32 appearances in 1940-41. He returned to Chelmsford City in 1945 and was a part of their Southern League championship winning side of 1945-46, whose fixtures after the War started a season before the Football League.

Bill Parry died after a two -year long illness in Chelmsford, Essex during 1964, aged forty-eight

William Parry made 32 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45, scoring twice, including playing in a 5-2 defeat at Fulham on 28 October 1944 and in a 3-1 defeat at Reading on 6 January 1945, a 3-0 win at Watford on 20 January 1945 and in a 1-0- defeat at West Ham United on 31 March 1945

Henry PAYNE

Forward Henry Payne was a local amateur player on O's books in the 1939-40 expunged season but never made any first team appearances before going into service.

Payne made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

Arnold PEMBERTON

A player named Arnold Pemberton made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

Andrew Main Alfred PERCY

Andrew Percy was born in Newmains, Wishaw, north Lanarkshire, Scotland during 1912, he started with his local Newmains club, moving onto Leith Athletic. In 1939 he was on trial with Cork City in Ireland and then with Ilford FC before joining O's.

The 5ft 6³/₄in and 10st 8lb left winger had played for Os in the Football League between March and April 1939, making 4 league appearance without scoring before moving to Plymouth Argyle on trial. He returned home to Newmains, where he later died.

Andrew Percy made 1 wartime appearance for O's in a 2-0 defeat at Crystal Palace on 11 August 1941.

Christopher PERKINS

Chris Perkins made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44.

Edwin PERRY

Eddie Perry was born in Rhymney, near Cardiff, Wales, 18 January 1909. The centre forward started his career with Tredomen Engineering Works and then Rhymney before joining Swansea Town on trial in 1927. A year later he was with Merthyr Town where he was spotted by a Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic scout as an amateur playing in an FA Cup tie.

After an unsuccessful spell with Bournemouth between April and May 1928, he joined London side Thames Association in June 1930 netting 16 goals from 25 League appearances. He scored a hat trick for them against O's in a League fixture on September 11, 1930.

He joined Fulham in May 1931 and notched 36 goals from 64 League appearances and 4 FA Cup goals from 5 appearances, he also notched over 100 goals in the reserves over three seasons at Craven Cottage.

Then in November 1936 he moved to Doncaster Rovers for a fee of £1 500 and scored a further 45 goals from 98 League appearances

Perry won 3 full Welsh caps in 1938 against England, Scotland and Ireland with 1 goal against the English in a 2-1 defeat on 17 November 1937.

During wartime football, he was a guest player with Brentford, appearing in the 1942 wartime Cup Final against Portsmouth at Wembley, the Bees' winning 2-1. And he made a total of 56 WW2 appearances with 36 goals for them between 1940 and 1943.

He also made 1 Wartime appearance for Watford in 1939-40 and 1 appearance for Reading in 1940-41 and spent one season with Northampton Town making 26 appearances in 1943-44 and in 1944-45 he made 1 appearance for Aldershot. After WW2, he was appointed Fulham coach to their 'A' side and was the man to find the brilliant Johnny Haynes.

He coached Fulham's 1948-49 Second Division Championship team and later was Secretary / Manager with Southend United for four uneventful seasons between August 1956 and February 1960 with a record of P197 W 85 D 43 L 69

He died in Shepway, Kent during November 1996, a couple of months short of his eighty-seventh birthday.

Perry made 3 wartime appearances for O's, scoring three goals between 1939 and 1941, two of the goals coming in a 4-3 win over Aldershot on 4 May 1940.

[PFEIFFER](#)

In November 1940, a Private Pfeiffer from the Army was on trial with O's from Leyton FC.

[PHILLIPS](#)

A local amateur player with the surname of Phillips (first name not listed) made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1941-42.

[Ernest PHYPERS](#)

Ernie Phypers was born in Walthamstow, east London, 13 September 1910. He started off with the Enfield based works team Haywards Sports in 1929, he soon moved onto Walthamstow Avenue before signing amateur forms with Aston Villa in September 1932 but only featured in their reserve team.

The wing half joined Tottenham Hotspur from Villa in April 1933 and was given a run in their reserve side on 3 May at Southend United and was offered a professional contract and went to play for the Spurs nursery club Northfleet United spending the 1933-34 season with them.

He started the 1934-35 season in the Spurs reserve side and on 10 October 1934 played against O's reserves but at the end he only made 2 League appearances. During the 1935-36 season he made 26 League appearances and 3 FA Cup appearances before knee and cartilage trouble curtailed his progress. He netted his only goal for club against Brentford reserves in a 2-1 victory on 19 December 1936 and made his final League appearance the following March against Bradford City.

In the 1938-39 season he was again only in the Spurs reserve side and made a total of 73 reserve appearances. He moved to Doncaster Rovers in 1939, making 2 League appearances in the aborted season.

During the war years he guested for Southend United with 1 appearance in 1940-41 and West Ham United, making 1 appearance for the Irons on 28 September 1940 at Clapton Orient, in a 3-3 draw before 500 rainswept fans. In the 1941-42 season he guested for Scottish side Raith Rovers.

He died at his Chingford home on 28 October 1960 aged fifty.

Phypers made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1940-41.

[Harold Frederick PITTS](#)

Full back Harry Pitts was born in Leyton, east London, 29 April 1915, he started off with Fulham in 1931 before joining Woking and then Islington Corinthians.

He re-joined Fulham in 1935, making 9 League appearances over three seasons until leaving in 1939. His League debut came in a 7-0 drubbing of Port Vale on 13 April 1936 and his final appearance was on 18 April 1938 a 4-0 defeat at Southampton. He made 2 wartime appearances for Fulham, 1 in 1939-40 and 1 in 1942-43

In September 1949, he was with Chelmsford City.

He died in Brentford, west London during May 1998, after just turning eighty-three.

Pitts made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1939-40 in a 1-1 against Watford on 17 February 1940.

Harold POND

Pond was born in Kilnhurst, south Yorkshire, 19 April 1917, a left winger or left half, Harry Pond was with Barnsley in 1937 but made his League debut with Carlisle United in 1938-39 with 13 League appearances. Harry Pond made 1 appearance for Portsmouth in 1942-43 and 7 wartime appearances for Reading in 1944-45 and 1 appearance for Crystal Palace in 1944 and 1 appearance with 1 goal for Aldershot in 1944-45.

In the 1946-47 he was with Midland League side Boston United, making 33 appearances with 3 goals against Barnsley reserves, Bradford City reserves and Ransome & Marples. His debut occurred on Thursday 19 September 1946, a 2-2 draw versus Scunthorpe & Lindsey United before 4 576 fans. He also appeared for the Follard Aircraft Works team in Hampshire having worked there during WW2.

The following season he made just 4 appearances for Boston without scoring. After an injury he retired from the game aged thirty-one.

Pond died in 1990.

Pond made 4 wartime appearances for O's, scoring 2 goals against Southampton, in a 6-2 defeat on 21 October and Crystal Palace a 6-1 defeat on 11 November respectively in 1944-45. His only other appearances came at Fulham on 28 October 1944, a 5-2 defeat and a 0-3 defeat to West Ham United on 4 November 1944.

Harvey John PRITCHARD

Right half John Pritchard, as he was known, was born in Meriden, in the Midlands, Wednesday, 30 January 1913 (some records show he was born on 30 January 1918).

He started playing for Exhall Colliery before joining Coventry City in October 1935 playing regularly for their reserves. In the 1936-37 season he

made 5 Second Division League appearances scoring 2 goals, his debut coming in a 1-1 draw with Fulham on 14 September 1936 before 18 188 fans.

The following week he netted his first goal in a 1-1 draw at Nottingham Forest. Two weeks later he appeared in front of over 63 000 fans as Coventry drew 0-0 at Aston Villa and soon after he scored in a 3-1 win over Bradford City, so after making 22 League appearances with 5 goals and 3 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals.

He moved to London to join Crystal Palace on 9 June 1937 and had a good spell playing 30 games and netting 6 goals and 2 goals from 5 FA Cup appearances and was snapped by Manchester City on 9 March 1938 but could not help them out of getting relegated with 2 goals from 9 appearances. The following season he scored 3 League goals from 13 appearances. He also made 3 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals.

During the war years he guested for a number of clubs including:

	Apps	Goals
Manchester City	48	9
Leicester City	11	1
Northampton Town	115	28
West Ham United	1	0

In February 1947, he joined Southend United and enjoyed three good seasons with the Essex club, making 71 League appearances with 8 goals and 3 appearances in the FA Cup with 0 goals. In June 1952 he joined Folkestone Town and later he was appointed trainer. He later had a spell as trainer at Chelmsford City. He died in Beccles, Suffolk during May 2000, aged eighty-seven.

Harvey Pritchard made 1 wartime appearance for O's on 21 October 1944 at Southampton, a 6-2 defeat. He is not Scotsman Andrew Smart Pritchard, who made one Football League appearance for O's in April 1939.

David PRYDE

Dave Pryde was born Newtongrange, Midlothian, Scotland, Monday, 10 November 1913. Before the war, left half Dave Pryde came south of the border to play for Margate on amateur forms before joining Arsenal in May 1935 making 4 League appearances for the Gunners, his debut coming in a 2-0 win over Sunderland on 4 February 1939 and his final appearance on 25 February 1939 at Preston North End.

During the War he served with the RAF in both India and Burma and represented the inter-services team. He made 20 wartime appearances for Arsenal and 1 appearance for Northampton Town in 1940-41 but having spent six years in national service he was demobed when aged thirty-one years old.

In October 1946, he joined Torquay United and during his three-year stay, he made 64 League appearances with 0 goals and after he retired from playing in 1950 and stayed on at the club as trainer.

He died in Torbay, Devon during June 1987, aged seventy-four.

He is not Robert 'Bob' Pryde who was born in Methil, Fyfe, Scotland on 25 April 1913 and appeared at left back for Blackburn Rovers, and in WW2 for Brighton in January 1942 and West Ham united in 1941-42 or Bill Pryde who was born on 20 May 1919 in Polmont, near Falkirk, Scotland and played for Bo'ness and Southend United).

Pryde made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1939-40, a 4-3 victory over Aldershot on 4 May 1940, he also had a few reserve appearances.

[Victor Norman PULFREY](#)

The Nottingham Forest registered inside right Vic Pulfrey, who was born in Nottingham, 1 April 1920, he made 3 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45, one in a 6-1 defeat at Crystal Palace on 11 November 1944, a 0-1 defeat to Portsmouth on 10 February 1945 and at Arsenal on 10 February 1945, O's lost 5-0. He died in Ashfield, near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, 20 October 1992, aged seventy-two.

[Walter Ernest PULLEN](#)

Wally Pullen was born in Ripley, Surrey, Saturday, 2 August 1919, he started as an amateur with Fulham, in 1944, before joining the Army, serving with the Queens Royals, West Surrey.

The 5ft 10¹/₄in and 11st 2lb inside forward was one of the players who made the transition from wartime football to playing in the Football League with O's. He made a total of 117 League appearances, scoring 37 goals and 3 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals between August 1946 and May 1950. The club awarded him a Testimonial match versus West Ham United on Monday 23 April 1951, with over 24 500 in attendance and scoring one of the goals in a 3-3 draw.

He joined Gloucester City in June 1950, staying for three-season, making 68 appearances with 27 goals, in October 1953, he was appointed player-manager with Dunstable Town. He died in Luton, Bedfordshire, in third quarter of 1977, aged fifty-eight.

Pullen made 20 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46, scoring a total of 5 goals, coming against Watford (a), Norwich City, Watford (twice at h) and Northampton Town

[Bartholomew PURVIS](#)

Bart Purvis was born in Gateshead, Wednesday, 15 October 1921. The left-back started off with North Shields and Everton in 1945-46. He made 3 wartime appearances for Reading in 1944-45 and 8 appearances in 1945-46 and

1 appearance for Aldershot in 1944-45. He also made 1 WW2 appearance for Hartlepool United in 1944-45 and 10 appearances with 0 goals for Chelsea also in 1944-45 appearing against O's on 30 September 1944, 1 appearance for Charlton Athletic in 1942-43 and 1 appearance for Exeter City in December 1945 whilst on the books of North Shields.

He made his Football League debut with Gateshead in October 1946 with just a single League appearance.

After short spells with Reading in March 1947 and Plymouth Argyle in June 1947, he joined Notts. County during May 1948 making 25 League appearances. In August 1951 he moved onto Carlisle United playing a further 4 matches and then in August 1952 he had an unsuccessful trial with Hartlepool United.

He died in Gateshead during June 2001, aged seventy-nine.

Purvis made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45, including in a 1-1 draw with Aldershot on 31 December 1944.

RANKIN

A local amateur player with the surname of Rankin (first name not listed) made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1941-42.

James RAVEN

Right Half Jimmy Raven was born in Nottingham, 29 March 1908, he started with Notts. County in 1931 but never played any League games. He moved onto Southern League Eastern Division side Folkestone.

In 1934, he joined Brentford making 1 league appearance, on 28 February 1935, a 0-0 draw, he spent most of his time at Griffin Park in the reserves but did feature in their 2-1 win against Millwall in the London Challenge Cup Final.

He made 7 League appearances and 1 appearance in the Third Division Cups match for Bristol Rovers and between 1937 and 1938 with Wrexham, he made 55 League appearances with 1 goal in both the Third Division north and south Leagues'.

In 1938 he returned to his native Nottingham and played for Nottingham Corinthians, East End (Nottingham) and Nottingham Co-operative Dairy Works team.

He died in Nottingham during 1965.

Raven made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41

John William RAWLINGS

Jack Rawlings, as he was known during his playing days, was born in Hackney, east London, 18 June 1923, as a young lad he would play football on

Hackney Marshes, in one match he fell and injured his back, little was thought of it at the time but in later life it was his back that caused him to retire from the game.

He joined O's as a sixteen year old junior player in 1940 and played 8 matches in the 1940-41 South B Regional War League, scoring 3 goals in heavy defeat against Southend United 9-3, Arsenal 15-2 and West Ham United 8-1. He then moved onto to play for West Ham United's 'A' side.

Whilst playing for O's in 1941 he was approached by Arsenal but his service in the war came first and in early 1942, he joined East Riding Yeomanry, a tank regiment and was trained as a gunner / wireless operator. Whilst taking part in the push on Caen in June 1944 his tank got blown up and after getting back to camp it was found he badly wounded his hip.

He was demobed in December 1946 and joined Enfield he later represented the Athenian League, an FA Amateur XI and Middlesex, he later went onto gain 11 England Amateur caps, his honour being in January 1948 against Wales in Bangor, scoring twice.

Rawlings was chosen to play for England in the 1948 Olympic Games, held in London, a team managed by Matt Busby but the 25-year old was injured in training and only played once in the team at inside-forward that lost 5-3 to Denmark at Wembley Stadium for the Bronze medal on 13 August 1948 before 5 000 Wembley Stadium spectators.

He attracted much attention from League clubs' and turned down offers from Wolverhampton Wanderers, Blackburn Rovers, Bolton Wanderers and Burnley, preferring to stay an amateur and moving to Enfield in 1946.

He joined Hayes in 1949 and went onto become their greatest ever inside forward making 172 appearances with 44 goals and in later years played with Dave Groombridge, who joined O's a year later. Rawlings broke his leg but was back eight months later. After a magnificent career with Hayes, he moved to Hendon in 1955 scoring 34 goals from 99 senior appearances and helping them to the Athenian League title, after more back problems he retired two-years later to coach and then manage Southall, taking them to the last eight of the Amateur Cup. He also worked for the Castrol Oil Company as a representative.

After retiring from football, he joined Hillingdon Golf Club and had been a member for over forty years, in later years he could be found playing Bridge and still has a soft spot for the O's, where it all started for him.

Jack Rawlings often looked back and wondered if he could have made it to the top in the professional ranks. Well a little over fifty years ago Rawlings was described by sports journalist Arthur Salter in Amateur Sport Magazine, who wrote of Rawlings.

'It is very seldom in the modern amateur game that any forward had shown the enterprise, let alone ability to dribble past more than one opponent. Rawlings can and he can also shoot, I have never seen him have a bad match, he was a football artist'.

A famous amateur player of the era, Jimmy Quail stated when asked to name the top player he had seen in the amateur ranks, without any hesitation, Jack Rawlings got his vote as the top inside forward. He was one of the top players of his era, be it amateur or professional.

Rawlings died in east London, 21 September 2016, aged ninety-three.

Rawlings made 15 wartime appearances scoring 3 goals for O's, 6 in the League with 1 goal and 9 in the London Cup 'B' Division with 2 goals in 1940-41.

[George Sidney RAYNOR](#)

George Raynor was born in Hoyland Common, near Barnsley, Yorkshire, 13 January 1907, he was a miners' son. He made 1 guest appearance for O's in 1939-40.

He never had a great early playing career, having started with Elsecar Bible Class, Mexborough Athletic and Wombell, he then had along career in the Football League appearances with Sheffield United, Mansfield Town, Rotherham United and Bury and between 1930 and 1938 he made a career total of 157 appearances with 26 goals. It was as a manager with the Swedish National side that he was best remembered, although I say that, he was someone forgotten by football followers in Britain.

When the War commenced, he signed up as a Physical Training Instructor to train soldiers in the British Army and was posted to Bagdad, Iraq. He put a team together of students who toured neighbouring countries to promote the game of football. He returned to England from time- to-time and played for Aldershot making 91 appearances with 24 goals throughout the War years. As well as the 1 appearances for O's, he also 'guested' for Aldershot with 21 appearances in 1940-41, Bournemouth with 1 appearance in 1940-41, Crystal Palace with 1 appearance in 1941-42 and Hull City with 1 appearance in 1940-41.

In August 1946 he was appointed reserve coach at Aldershot but on the suggestion of the English FA Stanley Rous the Swedish FA approached him to coach the Swedish National side.

In 1948 he took Sweden to the Olympic Games in England and his side beat Yugoslavia 3-1 in the Wembley Final to become the first British born manager to win an international tournament.

In the 1950 World Cup in Brazil, Sweden finished in third spot. And two years they won a bronze medal in the Helsinki Olympic Games. In the 1958

World Cup Finals Sweden got to the final losing 5-2 to Brazil with a couple of goals from a young Pelé.

After leaving as national coach to the Swedes, he coached ALK Sweden between 1948 and 1951 and Lazio in Italy in 1954-55. In 1956 he returned to England for an unsuccessful stint as manager with Coventry City a job which lasted just five months. He then managed Doncaster Rovers and later found work with Skegness Town and to help make ends meet he took jobs coaching children in Lincolnshire schools and coaching English to Hungarian refugees.

In 1961 he was asked to return to Sweden to coach the National team again until retiring from the game and he turned to writing his autobiography.

He died on 24 November 1985 in Buxted, East Sussex, an event which was unrecorded in any English newspaper.

[Kenneth Eric REEVE](#)

Centre forward Ken Reeve (In some books he is listed as Reeves) was born in Grimsby, 13 January 1921, he started his career with amateur side Humber United before joining Grimsby Town in February 1938

He was registered with Grimsby Town during the war, making 7 appearances in 1939-40 with 3 goals, 19 appearances with 9 goals in 1940-41, 1 appearance in 1941-42, 1 appearance in 1942-43, and 2 appearances with 3 goals in 1944-45 and also guested for Darlington with 1 appearance in 1939-40.

Between August 1946 and May 1948, he made 24 League appearances for Grimsby scoring 5 goals. In July 1948 he joined Doncaster Rovers making his debut on 21 August 1948 at Mansfield Town in a 2-2 draw before 16 749 spectators and went onto make 30 League appearances with 12 goals.

He came to the fore with Mansfield Town, and between August 1949 and May 1954 he netted 62 goals (3 penalties) from 139 League appearances. In July 1954 he ended his playing career with Gainsborough Trinity.

Ken Reeve died in Grimsby during 2005

Reeve made 2 wartime appearance for O's 1 League and 1 London Cup 'B' Division in 1940-41.

[RETTISON](#)

A young promising full back, who played for the O's reserve side between 1943 and 1944 until injuring his knee in a reserve fixture against West Ham United on 11 November 1944. He never appeared for an O's team again.

[REYNOLDS](#)

He was a junior player in 1940-41 (first name not listed) who made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1941-42.

James Robert RICHARDSON

Jimmy Richardson was born in Ashington, Northumberland, Wednesday, 8 February 1911, after leaving school he worked as a motor engineer before joining Newcastle United in April 1928 and going onto make 136 league appearances with 42 goals, he then joined Huddersfield Town and during his three-years, he netted 32 goals from 120 league appearances, in 1937, he returned to Newcastle but only made 14 appearances before signing for Millwall in 1937, where he netted 15 goals from 55 league appearances. He made 6 Wartime appearances with 1 goal for Millwall in 1944-45.

In 1933, he won 2 England caps against Italy and Switzerland, he was also an FA Cup winner with Newcastle United and a Division Three south title winner with Millwall in 1938.

Inside Right, Jimmy Richardson guested for O's in the 1944-45 season. After the war he joined O's in January 1948 as first team trainer but due to a number of injuries and Doug Hunt missing the train for a match at Port Vale, he played and then appeared in fourteen other league games in 1948. He left O's in November 1956 to take up an assistant trainers' position with Millwall but had to leave a few months later due to ill health. He died in Bexley, south-east London, Friday, 28 August 1964, aged fifty-three.

Richardson made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45, one appearance was at Portsmouth on 24 February 1945 at inside forward.

RICHMOND

He was a reserve player who scored 1 goal in the 1942-43 season.

Horace Francis John RICKETT

Harry Rickett, also listed by his actual first name Horace in team line-ups, was born in Orsett, Grays, Middlesex, Wednesday, 3 January 1912. The goalkeeper started in 1934 as a reserve with Millwall. In 1936 he was with Tilbury and it was reported he once saved eleven (yes 11) penalties in one game for them. He moved to Chelmsford City before WW2.

In some WW2 programme teamsheets he was also listed as Ricketts.

He made 31 appearances for Southend United in 1940-41 and 2 wartime appearances for West Ham United whilst being registered with Reading, in 1941-42. His debut was at Clapton Orient on 21 December 1941, O's winning 3-1 before 3 000 fans. His second appearance came in a 6-2 victory over Portsmouth on 4 April 1942 with 4 500 in attendance at the Boleyn.

He also made 12 WW2 appearances for Watford between 24 October 1942 and 2 January 1943, conceding 34 goals of which five games were victories. He made 2 guest appearances for Brentford in 1941-42. He guested for Fulham in 1944-45, making 10 wartime appearances. In 1944-45 he also was with Chelmsford City, being registered with them.

He moved to Craven Cottage from O's in January 1946 and played in 2 FA Cup games against Charlton Athletic, losing 4-2 on aggregate and in 17 wartime appearances between January and May 1946.

He joined Reading in June 1946, making 22 League and 3 FA Cup appearances. In June 1948, he left to join Tonbridge.

Rickett died in Colchester during January 1989, aged seventy-seven.

Rickett made a total of 63 wartime appearances for O's between February 1942 and 1945. He made 13 appearances in 1942-43, 31 appearances in 1943-44 and 19 appearances in 1944-45

[Albert Arthur RINGROSE](#)

Bert Ringrose was born in Tottenham, north London, 18 November 1916 {some records show born 8 November 1916}, even though his name had a Jewish flavour to it, he was not Jewish.

He represented Tottenham Districts versus Grays in October 1930 as a thirteen-year old Devonshire Hill Schoolboy. On 26 April 1934 he played for Tottenham Juniors versus South Wales Juniors at White Hart Lane, scoring one of the goals in a 7-1 win.

He started off as a junior with Tottenham Hotspur and signed amateur forms in June 1934 and was loaned out to its nursery club Northfleet United for the 1934-35 and 1935-36 seasons. He made his first Spurs senior appearance for their 'A' team (3rd X1) in November 1935.

The 5ft 8½in and 10st 8lb full-back returned to Spurs in June 1936 and signed professional forms, he made 10 Second Division appearances in the 1936-37 season and during his stay at White Hart Lane he also made 56 London Combination appearances between 1935 and 1939.

He moved to Notts. County in May 1939 but broke his leg in his very first WW2 match during August for the Nottinghamshire club, which ended his professional career, a week later war was declared, and the FL was suspended.

In the 1946-47 season he was with Gravesend & Northfleet making 31 League and 14 Cup appearances, without scoring.

He died in Chelsea, 16 January 1968, aged fifty-two.

Ringrose made 13 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46

[Frank Henry RIST](#)

Born in Leyton, east London, Monday, 30 March 1914, Rist's father was a CID Inspector at the Leyton Police Station in Francis Road. When Frank left school aged fourteen, he worked for a rubber company in Hackney Wick and played cricket for the firm's team and also played for the Leyton Police team with his

father. As a young boy he would watch Essex play at the Leyton County Ground.

A strongly built centre half, who started his footballing career off with Grays Thurrock before joining Clapton Orient as an eighteen-year old in August 1932 but remained in the reserves all season. He was transferred to Charlton Athletic in June 1933 and was signed by former O's manager Jimmy Seed, on £4 per week rising to £8 when in the first team, in the winter months he earned £2.6d per week. He made a total of 47 League appearances and played in 2 FA Cup ties with 1 goal for Charlton.

In 1932, aged eighteen, he also joined the groundstaff of Essex CCC making his debut two years later and as a right hand wicketkeeper / batsman and medium paced bowler, he played 65 matches scoring 1496 runs, his highest score being 62, hitting three fifties and taking 1 wicket in the 25 balls bowled for 8 runs.

During his playing days with Essex CCC he earned £4 per week in the summer and £3 in the winter months. When he played for the first eleven, he earned an extra £2. He was linked to the Essex club until 1954 when he received a benefit season. He made his debut in 1934 and played his final game in 1953, yet appeared in just 65 matches, he is recorded as being one of the great unsung heroes of Essex cricket.

In 1949, he became the team's coach and in the late 1960s he ran the 2nd XI which he did on an honorary basis.

Frank Rist served with the RAF in Blackpool during the war, he made 16 WW2 appearances for Charlton Athletic and after being transferred to Blackpool with just 1 WW2 appearance in 1940-41, he became a star player with Liverpool in the 1942-43 wartime Regional Leagues' making 13 wartime appearances with 1 goal, including two games against Manchester United in the two-legged final of the Lancashire Cup, losing 6-4 on aggregate during May 1943. He also made 13 appearances for Bradford City in 1941-42 and 16 appearances for Charlton Athletic in 1944-45. He also made 1 appearance for Notts. County in 1943-44. He made 17 appearances with 1 goal for Southport in 1942-43

He spent the 1947-48 season with Southern League Colchester United, making 10 Southern League appearances and 3 Southern League Cup appearances with 1 goal. His debut came on 30 August 1947 in a 5-1 win at Bedford, aged 34 years and 153 days. His final game came at Chelmsford City on 21 April 1948, a 2-1 loss at the age of 34 years and 22 days. On 21 April 1948 he joined Tonbridge.

He joined the coaching staff of West Ham United and in the mid-fifties' he managed the West Ham United 'A' team.

He worked for his father-in-law as a director of Walthamstow based shopfitters A.E. Sedgwicks, whom he joined in 1950, until his death on 9 September 2001 in Whipps Cross, Leytonstone, London, aged eighty-seven.

Rist, having re-joined O's in October 1939 made 32 wartime appearances for O's. Including in the very first home match after he commencement of World War One, a 1-6 home defeat to Arsenal before 8 000 fans on 29 October 1939. He made 31 appearances in 1931-32 and 1 appearance in 1940-41

Ledger RITSON

Ritson was born in Gateshead, Durham, Thursday, 28 April 1921. He started his career with Hitchen Town whilst serving in the Army at Woolwich Barracks.

The 5ft 5in and 10st 6lb left back joined O's having finished his National Service, in March 1946 and soon became a regular in the first team even though he was recorded as the smallest full-back throughout the Football League.

After the war, he stayed for three seasons making 8 first team appearances before tragedy struck against Northampton Town on 11 September 1948, when he broke his leg. As he lay on the ground writhing in agony he was given two pain injections and as he was being stretchered off, he was given a cigarette to smoke by club doctor Monty Bell, he was seen waving to the fans as he went through the tunnel to go to hospital.

On 22 December, without the doctor's knowledge, he was doing a light running session on the cinder track around Leyton Stadium when he slipped and broke his leg again. He was taken to the Connought Hospital in Walthamstow and was operated upon. Sadly, gangrene set in and on 20 January 1950 his right leg was amputated. He later attended the Roehampton Rehab Centre to have an artificial leg fitted. He was appointed by O's as coach and advisor to the reserve and 'A' teams jointly with Sid Hobbins. On 27 April 1951, a Testimonial was arranged for him when the Blues defeated the Whites 5-1 with a good crowd in attendance.

Ritson died in Haringey, north London during March 1977, one month after his fifty-sixth birthday.

Ritson made 5 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46, including in a 2-0 defeat at Watford in the Third Division Cup north Region match on 19 April 1946.

Peter ROBINSON

Wing Half Peter Robinson was born in Manchester, 29 January 1922, he started as a junior with Urmston before signing for Manchester City in October 1941 and he was registered with them during WW2, making 32 wartime appearances with 2 goals.

He also guested, when being stationed down south, during WW2 for both Aldershot making 6 appearances in 1945-46 and Queens Park Rangers with 2 appearances in 1944-45.

After the war, he made 1 League appearance for Man City in a 4-3 win over Plymouth Argyle in December 1946 and 1 FA Cup appearance for City before joining Chesterfield in October 1947 in a player-exchange deal with Billy Linacre, he stayed until August 1949, making 60 League appearances until falling-out with management and he was allowed to join Buxton.

He then signed for Notts. County during February 1950, and over four seasons, he made 82 League appearances, scoring 1 goal before moving to Kings Lynn in 1953.

After his playing career ended, he was appointed manager of Macclesfield Town and Hyde United. He returned to Manchester City to coach City's youth team under manager Joe Mercer and took up a similar role with Preston North End before becoming scout at Maine Road he also became a leading member of City's Former Player Association.

Robinson died in Manchester, 9 September 2000, aged seventy-seven.

Robinson made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44.

Albert Proud ROBSON

Bert Robson was born in Crook, Durham, 14 November 1916, a centre forward who started as a junior with Godalming before joining Crystal Palace in December 1934 and between 1937 to 1939, he made 85 League appearances with 22 goals. During the war years he also scored 114 goals from 182 appearances.

He made 1 wartime guest appearance for Brighton & Hove Albion, scoring 1 goal. After the war he returned to Palace, making 48 League appearances with 8 goals between 1946 and 1947.

After the war he dropped into non-league football with the newly formed Tonbridge and scored their first ever goal in a 2-1 defeat by Hastings United on 29 August 1948. In 1949 he joined Guildford City and scored 28 Southern League goals from 99 appearances.

In 1949 he moved to Guildford City, he joined Margate in June 1951, making 10 appearances, scoring 7 goals in the 1951-52 season, however he then found himself out of favour and left the club.

He died in Croydon, Surrey during January 1990, aged seventy three.

Robson made a total of 7 wartime appearances for O's and scored 6 goals. He made 3 appearances with 1 goal in 1943-44 and 4 appearances with 5 goals in 1945-46 (including a hat trick at Walsall in a 5-3 defeat on 22 September 1945. He came in as a late replacement for the injured Dinnen, also in the O's side

famous names in O's history in Les Gore and Alec Stock) and in a 2-0 win at Mansfield Town on 16 February 1946.

ROSS

A local amateur centre forward named Ross made 1 appearance for O's in the London Cup 'B' Division during 1940-41 and played for the reserve side between 1940 and 1945.

Harold ROTHERY

Right half Harry Rothery was born in Halifax, 11 January 1916. A player registered with Sheffield United over the war years he was with Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic between 1941 and 1942 making 4 guest appearances.

He made 1 wartime appearance for Watford on 26 August 1944, a 9-0 defeat at Southampton. In April 1945, he made 3 guest appearances for Hull City scoring 1 goal.

The following week he appeared on trial at inside forward for O's in a 3-1 defeat at Brighton & Hove Albion. He died in Halifax, 18 November 1988, aged seventy-one.

Walter Albert ROWLINSON

Wally Rowlinson, a player registered with Walsall made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46.

George Arthur RUMBOLD

Rumbold was born in Alton, Hampshire, 10 July 1911. He started off with local side Farrington United before turning pro with Crystal Palace in 1934 and joined O's from them in June 1937.

Left Full back Rumbold played 56 first team games for O's between 1937 and 1939, he also appeared in all three of the expunged matches the 1939-40 season. He moved to Ipswich Town on 15 May 1946, making his debut for them at Brisbane Road on 31 August 1946. He made over 120 league appearances with 11 goals. He joined King's Lynn in July 1949 and ended his career with Whitton United. He died in Ipswich, 12 December 1995, aged eighty-four.

Corporal G.A. Rumbold made a total of 84 wartime appearances for O's. 31 appearances in 1939-40, 2 appearances in 1940-41, 3 appearances in 1941-42, 2 appearances in 1942-43, 4 appearances in 1943-44, 24 appearances in 1944-45 and 18 appearances in 1945-46. He also made 2 appearances in the FA Cup versus Newport Isle of Wight in 1945-46.

Leonard Alexander SALMON

Len Salmon, a wing half, was born in West Kirby, 24 June 1912. He started his career with Hoylake FC then he was with New Brighton in October 1934 making 30 League appearances with 2 goals.

After a spell with South Liverpool FC he moved to Burnley in September 1941 and played 19 WW2 games with 1 goal in 1941-42, 3 appearances with 1 goal in 1944-45

He also made 1 appearance for Fulham in 1942-43 and 2 appearances for Aldershot in 1943-44 and 1 appearance for them in 1944-45 and 4 appearances for Charlton Athletic in 1944-45, he made 19 appearances for Millwall in 1943-44 and 1 appearance in 1944-45. After leaving Burnley in 1946 he joined Tranmere Rovers in September 1946 making 30 League appearances with 1 goal.

He died in Birkenhead, February 1995, aged eighty-three.

Salmon made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44.

Charles SARGENT

Locally born half back Charlie Sargent made 7 wartime guest appearances for O's. He made 1 appearance in 1939-40 and 5 League and 1 London Cup 'B' Division appearances in 1940-41 and 1 appearances in 1941-42, a 5-2 defeat at Crystal Palace on 11 August 1941, but he never ever appeared for any team in the Football League.

(Not to be confused with either Charles Sargeant who played for Norwich City, Bristol City, Hull City, Chester and Stockport County between 1930 and 1940 before going into the Army and ended up a prisoner of War in North Africa held by the Germans. He only returned to Plymouth in 1945 OR Fred Sargent the former Tottenham Hotspur and Chelmsford City player who sadly died on 22 August 1948 of a gastric condition shortly after player for Chelmsford in a practice match).

Arthur William SAUL

Arthur Saul made 1 wartime appearance, scoring 1 goal against Chelsea in a 3-1 win during February 1943 and a further 10 appearances in 1943-44. He also netted 5 goals for the reserve side in 1942-43. He also netted once in a 3-2 friendly win in 1945 against the Royal Artillery.

William SAUNDERS

Forward Billy Saunders made 5 wartime appearances for O's with 2 goals against Crystal Palace a 6-1 defeat on 4 December 1945 and Fulham, a 3-1 defeat on 6 May 1944, and 1 appearance in 1945-46. He also netted 4 goals for the reserve side in 1942-43.

SAVOY

He was a reserve centre forward who played in the 1945-46 season.

James SCOTT

Jim Scott made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1942-43. He is not the former O's player from the 1960s.

Edward Arthur SEDDON

Eddie Seddon made 1 wartime appearance for O's at inside-left in an 8-2 defeat at Reading on 30 October 1943. The Everton registered player was stationed in Reading and came to watch the match, and because O's were one man short, he offered his services after a request over the tanooy for any decent footballers to play for O's. The records show he made 1 appearance for Everton in 1941-42 but nothing before or after the war.

Robert SHANKLY

Bob Shankly was born in Douglas, Lanarkshire, Scotland, 11 February 1909, his brother was Robert Shankly, a former Southend United player, but they were not related to the famous Liverpool manager Bob Shankly.

He was small for a centre forward, at 5ft 6in, but defenders found it difficult to shake him off the ball. He started off with Hull City in May 1931, before playing for the Glasgow based team Carlisle Rovers in 1933, he then signed for Scottish league side Rutherglen Glencairn, making 47 appearances with 29 goals.

He moved to Newcastle United in June 1934. He joined O's in July 1937, making 13 appearances with 0 goals in his two seasons, he was never able to dislodge Ted Crawford, although he did notch 17 goals for the reserves.

He came to the fore in the wartime Regional League of 1939-40 when he netted 24 goals from 24 appearances. During the War years he worked at fitting fuses to naval shells. After the war he went to work in Maryland, USA, where it was reported, he died.

Shankly made 32 wartime appearances for O's with 29 goals. He made 24 appearances in 1939-40 with 24 goals, 3 appearances in 1940-41 with 3 goals, 4 appearances with 2 goals in 1941-42 and a single appearance in 1942-43

Jack SHARPE

Left winger Jack Sharpe (also listed as Sharp) made 7 wartime appearances for O's, with 5 appearances, scoring 1 goal in 1943-44, including a goal against QPR on 19 February 1944 and in a 3-0 defeat at Reading on 26 February 1944, he also made 2 appearances in 1944-45.

Frank Charles SHUFFLEBOTTOM

Shufflebottom was born in Chesterfield, 9 October 1917, the 5ft 10in and 10st 11lb right full-back started off as a junior with Sheffield United, he joined Ipswich Town in 1936, making his debut at Dartford during October 1936, then making 16 first team appearances in 1936-37.

He moved to Margate in June 1937, moving back to Ipswich Town during June 1938 making 2 League appearances in 1938-39 and he also appeared in 2 appearances in the Third Division Cup. He played in 41 Southern League games for Ipswich between 1936 and 1939. His final game for Town came at Port Vale on 27 February 1939 in the Southern Section Cup 2nd Round.

He then joined Nottingham Forest in September 1942 with 9 appearances and 0 goals, in 1943-44 with 2 appearances and in 1945-46 with a further 2 appearances, also 1 appearance with Aldershot in 1944-45 and also played in Scotland with both Raith Rovers and Kilmarnock.

Between September 1945 and January 1946, he made 29 Scottish League 'B' Division appearances for Dundee United, scoring 1 goal. After his Demob he returned to Nottingham Forest, making 2 League appearances in 1946-47.

He moved to Bradford City in October 1946 for £1 250, making 56 League appearances between 1946 and 1948. Between May 1949 and December 1953, he was scout and trainer with Bradford City before he resigned, it was during this time that he changed his surname to Shuffe.

On leaving football he became manager of the The Prospect Hotel at Eckkeshill, Bradford during October 1953. In the 1960s he was the Licensee of The Joiner's Arms at Hansthwaite, near Harrogate.

Shufflebottom died in a Harrogate hospital after a short illness on 7 February 1973, aged fifty-five.

Shufflebottom made 9 wartime appearances for O's between 1941 and 1943. He made 8 appearances in 1942-43, including appearance at Chelsea, a 3-1 win on 13 February 1943, at Fulham on 27 February 1943, a 1-1 draw and against Brentford in the War Cup on 13 March 1943 and in a 1-1 draw against Queens Park Rangers on 20 March 1943 and also 1 appearance in 1943-44

Frederick SIDNESS

Local amateur player Fred Sidness (his surname was also referred to as Sidney in one local newspaper match report, however in the official Football League records show his name as Sidness).

Sidness made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

Harold SILVER

O's junior centre forward Harry Silver played between 1940 and 1942. He returned to the club in 1945 playing sporadically for the reserve side until leaving the club in May 1948.

Silver made 6 wartime appearances for O's between 1940 and 1942, including a 2-1 defeat to Southend United on 14 September 1940 and a 2-0 defeat at Crystal Palace on 11 October 1941.

John SIMPSON

Left full back John Simpson was born in Hedon, East Yorkshire, 27 October 1918. He started off playing for Hull City Boys before joining Beverley White Star and Bridlington Town. He signed for Third Division North side Hull City in 1937 on amateur forms but only appeared for the reserve team.

In March 1939, he joined Huddersfield Town on a trial before signing professional forms as an eighteen year old on £4 per week plus £2 extra if he made it into the first team.

During the War, he was registered as a Huddersfield Town player making 18 WW2 appearances, he was in the Army Physical Training Corps and captained the Southern Command team for three seasons. He also guested for Aldershot with 2 appearances in 1941-42, Bournemouth making 16 appearances between 1941 and 1942, Bath City and Leeds United, with 2 appearances with 0 goals in 1942.

He returned to Huddersfield Town after the War and made 5 League and 2 FA Cup appearances for the Terriers between 1946 and 1948.

He joined York City in March 1948 for a club record fee of £1 000 and during his five-year stay he made 207 League and 13 FA Cup appearances, until an eye injury forced him to retire in 1954.

After a short spell with Grantham as coach in 1954 and running a fruit and veg stall in Hull, he was appointed coach to Hull City and stayed with them for nine years until the club had gained promotion to Division Two in 1959.

He moved to Hartlepool United in 1963 as coach and later he served as manager between 24 April 1970 and 1 March 1971, his record being: W5 D9 L19.

In 1971, he joined Cambridge United as coach and physio and was part of two promotions in 1973 and 1977. In that year he returned to York City as trainer, his wife making the players tea and doing their laundry, he remained at the club until his retirement in October 1983 aged sixty-five and was rewarded with a Testimonial with a game against Leeds United on 9 May 1983.

He died in Market Weighton, a small town in East Yorkshire, 21 June 2000, aged eighty-one.

Simpson made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44.

Charles SKEGGS

O's junior full back Charlie Skeggs made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1940-41 whilst also playing for the junior side.

Eric John SLADE

Eric Slade made 5 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46.

Charles James SMITH

Charlie Smith was born in Cardiff, Wales, Thursday, 26 August 1915.

The right half started his professional career with Third Division south side Exeter City in 1936, making 5 League appearances. In 1937 he moved to Yeovil

& Petters United, before a £350 move took him to Scotland with Aberdeen signed by manager and former O's striker David Halliday, Yeovil being one of his former clubs, making his Scottish League debut on 21 January 1938, a 4-0 win over St Johnstone. He stayed for two seasons making 21 Scottish League appearances with 5 goals and 3 Scottish Cup games with 2 goals.

In April 1946, he joined Torquay United making 23 League appearances in the 1946-47 season.

He died in Torbay, Devon, 31 March 1984, aged sixty-eight.

Charles Smith made 31 wartime appearances for O's between 1942 and 1944, scoring 5 goals, he also appeared in the reserve side in 1943-44.

[Frank SMITH](#)

Frank Smith made 5 wartime appearances for O's in 1940-41.

[Harold McPherson SMITH](#)

Harry Smith was born in Dundee, Friday, 14 October 1911. He started off with his local clubs Dundee and then Dundee United, before moving onto Raith Rovers He came south to join O's on 10 August 1934., signed by Scottish born manager Peter Proudfoot.

He played 169 first team games with 38 goals for O's in the League seasons between 1934 and 1939. He appeared in 1 League match in the expunged 1939-40 season. He retired in 1946.

Smith made a total of 41 wartime appearances for O's, scoring 13 goals . He made 31 appearances with 10 goals in 1939-40, 5 appearances with 3 goals in 1940-41, 4 appearances in 1942-43 and 1 appearance in 1944-45

[John Trevor SMITH](#)

John Trevor Smith was born in West Stanley, County. Durham, 8 September 1910, Trevor as he was always known, gained Durham junior League medals with South Moor FC and then played for Annfield Plain FC in 1929. After a trial with Portsmouth in February 1930, he joined the West Stanley club in 1932 making 3 appearances.

After a short period with Blackpool he moved to Charlton Athletic in May 1933, making 23 League appearances with 6 goals. He moved onto Fulham in March 1935 for £1 000 and bagged 19 League goals from 92 appearances and 2 goals from 7 FA Cup appearances including in the FA Cup semi final in 1936, a 2-1 loss to Sheffield United.

In February 1938, he signed with Crystal Palace for £2 500 playing 57 matches with 14 goals. During the war years' he also guested for Crystal Palace for six seasons between 1939 and 1946 making 148 appearances with 50 goals, Fulham with 2 appearances in 1940-41 and 2 appearances in 1942-43, Nottingham Forest with 9 appearances between 1939 and 1945, Notts.

County with 4 appearances in 1940-41 and West Ham United, 1 appearance in June 1940

After a spell with Yeovil in 1946-47, he went to Watford in June 1947 making 10 League and 2 FA Cup appearances. He was released in May 1948 and signed for Bedford Town for the 1948-49 season making 30 appearances with 1 goal. Smith was appointed manager of Wingate FC in June 1949.

He died in Bracknell, Berks, 23 October 1997, aged eighty-seven.

J.T. Smith made 4 wartime appearances with O's in 1945-46, scoring 2 goals at Mansfield Town to secure a 2-1 win on 16 February 1946 before 4000 fans. He also played in a 2-0 defeat at Watford on 19 April 1946, a Third Division Cup north region match.

Peter SMITH

Amateur player Peter Smith made 1 appearance for O's in the London Cup 'B' Division in 1940-41.

Alfred George SOMERFIELD

Outside right Alf Somerfield was born in South Kirkby, west Yorkshire, 22 March 1918, he commenced his career with Minthorpe Works and then Frickley Colliery before playing for Mansfield Town in 1938 with 14 League appearances and 6 goals, he also netted a hat trick on debut for them on 18 August 1938 at Notts County in the Notts County Cup, and then with Wolverhampton Wanderers in 1939 but with no senior appearances.

He made WW2 guest appearances with Wolverhampton Wanderers with 1 appearance and 1 goal in 1939-40 and 5 appearances in 1944-45, Ipswich Town with 1 appearance in 1945-46 and 7 appearances with 3 goals for Aldershot in 1945-46.

He played for Chelmsford City, making 45 appearances and netting 39 goals but travelling to and from Wolverhampton proved tiring and so he left the Essex club. He later made guest appearances for Milnthorpe WMC, Doncaster Rovers with 2 appearances in 1942-43, Millwall with 6 appearances in 1943-44, Notts. County with 1 appearance in 1943-44, Queens Park Rangers with 10 appearances and 3 goals in 1943-44, 1 appearance with 1 goal in 1944-45 and 8 appearances with 1 goal in 1945-46. He represented the Royal Artillery (Woolwich) scoring a hat-trick, in a 8-2 victory over the Royal Engineers (London) on 7 February 1945 played at Fulham's Craven Cottage.

After the war in 1946-47 he made 2 League appearances for Wrexham scoring once and in September 1947, he joined Crystal Palace scored 3 goals from 10 League starts, he then appeared for Worcester City and Kidderminster Harriers.

He died in Mansfield during April 1985

Somerfield made 3 wartime appearances with 2 goals for O's. He made 1 appearance in 1944-45 and 2 appearances with 2 goals against Watford and Norwich City in January 1946, this a week after he also turned out for Chelmsford City before an 8000 crowd, scoring the winning goal

George SPEARS

Spears made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1940-41.

James R. SPERRIN

Jimmy Sperrin played for O's by default when on 21 December 1940, the O's team arrived to play Tottenham Hotspur with a number of players missing, so Sperrin was loaned out as a guest player to Clapton Orient for the match, which Spurs won 9-0. The following week he turned out for Spurs against O's and he scored in their 7-0 win, both matches were played at White Hart Lane.

A speedy winger, Sperrin was born in Wood Green, north London, 10 July 1920, he was a product of Tottenham Hotspur's junior ranks and served as a ball boy for the 1934 FA Cup Final at Wembley Stadium between Manchester City and Portsmouth. He made 17 appearances with 3 goals in Spurs wartime team. He guested for Millwall, making 1 appearance. He also appeared for Northfleet Amateurs.

After serving as a motorcycle mechanic with the Army, he played after the war for Finchley and then St Albans City from 1947 to 1952, making 105 senior appearances for City, netting 26 goals and made representative appearances for Middlesex(4 games), Hertfordshire(3), Athenian League(2) and an FA XI(2). He later managed a team in the St Albans area until retiring to Luton in the 1980s.

His brother William Thomas Sperrin, who was born in Wood Green on 9 April 1922 was also a Spurs player during the war years and a professional with Brentford, he died just six weeks after his brother, in Sawbridgeworth, Herts on 21 June 2000, aged seventy-eight. His son Martyn made 1 League appearance for Luton Town in 1977-78.

Jimmy Sperrin died in Luton, 10 May 2000, aged seventy-nine.

Jimmy Sperrin made 1 wartime appearance for O's in December 1940.

Alan Victor STEWART

Stewart was a tall imposing left full-back and centre half, who stood 6ft and weighed 11st 10lb. He was born in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, 24 July 1922 as a junior in April 1940, he was on the books of Huddersfield Town.

During WW2, he served in the Army and represented Allied Army Command XI on 10 February 1945 versus Northern Command in a 2-2 draw played at Mansfield and he also made guest appearances for Newcastle United with 2 appearances in 1943-44. After the War he was still on Huddersfield's books.

He made his League debut for Huddersfield at Sheffield United on 21 December 1946, a 2-2 draw and he made a total of 14 League appearances and 1 FA Cup appearance at home to Barnsley on 11 January 1947 in a 4-3 defeat. All made between 1946 and 1949.

He joined York City in August 1949, with his League debut coming at right back away at Barrow on 20 August 1949, a 3-2 defeat. He made a grand total of 208 League and 23 FA Cup appearances, scoring 1 League goal versus Halifax Town on 10 April 1954 in a 1-1 draw. Stewart missed the whole of the 1952-53 due to an injury.

He appeared in all eight FA Cup ties in 1954-55 that took the York to the Semi Final of the FA Cup. In 1955 they held a benefit match for him.

Stewart retired from playing in May 1957 when he became a York brewery representative. He died in Acomb, York, 13 July 2004, aged eighty-one.

Alan Stewart made 9 wartime appearances for O's in 1944-45, including on 6 January 1945 at Reading and at full-back on 20 January 1945 at Watford in a rare away win, by 3-0.

James STEWART

The St. Mirren registered full-back Jimmy Stewart, who between October 1944 and November 1955 made 14 Scottish League appearances, scoring 6 goals for St. Mirren before joining Her Majesty's Forces.

Jim Stewart made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1943-44

Alec William STOCK

O's great Manager of the 1950's, Alec Stock also guested for O's as a player in the 1945-46 season whilst serving in the Royal Armoured Corps.

Born in Peasedown St John's, near Bath, Somerset, 30 March 1917. Having started his career as a junior with both Tottenham Hoptspur in 1935 and Charlton Athletic in 1936 Stock made his mark with Queens Park Rangers, making 26 appearances, scoring 3 goals in 1938-39.

During the War years also made guest appearances for QPR with 24 appearances and 9 goals, Bristol City in 1939-40 with 2 appearances and 2 goals, Bath City in 1942-3 and 1943-4 with 5 appearances and 5 goals, Bristol City in 1944-45 with 1 appearance with 0 goals, Crystal Palace on 18 November 1944 with 1 appearance and 1 goal. In March 1946 he played in 2 FA Cup games for Yeovil & Petters United

After the war, he was appointed player-manager with Yeovil Town, he was in charge during their shock 2-1 FA Cup victory of Sunderland in 1949. In the 5th Round they lost 8-0 to Manchester United in a replay at Old Trafford before 81 563 fans. In August 1949, he was appointed Manager with O's and went on to have a long and distinguished career. The Stock managerial years were bright pages in O's history.

He died in a nursing home at Wimborne, Dorset, 16 April 2001, aged eighty-four , after battling with cancer for many years.

All birth, marriage and death certificates show his first name as Alec and not Alexander as some profile show.

Stock made 13 wartime appearances for O's with 5 goals against Southend United (twice), Walsall on 1 October 1945, he also missed a penalty, Port Vale and Ipswich Town in the 1945-46 season.

STOCKWELL

A local amateur inside forward named Stockwell(no first name given) played in a 5-2 defeat at Crystal Palace on 11 October 1941

William Henry STRAUSS

Born in Benoni, on the East Rand of Johannesburg, South Africa, 6 January 1916, Billy Strauss (his surname name was sometimes shown as Straus) arrived in the UK from South Africa after travelling on the S.S. Arundel Castle in December 1935,

He represented a South African X1 against an English FA touring side in 1939, these were not considered full internationals by the South African FA. He also represented South Africa versus an Anglo-SA X1 in 1953.

He went to Scotland after being spotted playing in South Africa by former Aberdeen player Eddie Swan to play with Aberdeen, making his debut on 22 August 1936 netting two goals at St. Mirren in a 4-1 win.

The dashing left winger proved to be a quick player with an eye for goal as his record with the Dons suggests, scoring 45 goals from 87 Scottish League appearances and 14 Scottish Cup appearances with 12 goals, his final SL match was against Rangers on 29 April 1939.

His spent most of the war years playing for the Dons but came south of the border, making 1 wartime appearance for Reading in 1942-43 and 2 appearances with 3 goals for Chelsea in 1939-40 and 2 appearances for Arsenal in 1942-43.

He served for his adopted country for four years in the Royal Signals Regiment. After the war, he joined Plymouth Argyle in July 1946, scoring a brace on debut against West Ham United on 31 August 1946 at Home Park.

He made a total of 158 League appearances, scoring 40 goal and 8 Cup appearances with 2 goals between 1946 and 1953 for Plymouth, he spent most of the 1952-53 season in the reserves, his final League appearance came at Leeds United on 16 September 1953, a 1-1 draw when he decided to retire at the age of thirty-seven.

He ran a public house for many years in Octagon Union Street, Plymouth. After thirteen years he moved to the Standard Public House in Devonport, Devon before retiring in 1971.

Aberdeen played a benefit match for Strauss against Plymouth on 4 May 1951, the final score was 2-2 before a crowd of 11 500 He also played Minor Counties cricket for Devon between May 1950 to August 1951 playing in 10 matches and scored 111 runs at the Oval against a Surrey 2nd X1 on 21 June 1950 and in nine innings he scored a total of 227 runs. He was also a good badminton player and played darts in the local Plymouth leagues.

He died in his Chichester home, Plymouth, 16 November 1984, aged sixty-seven and not in 1987 as listed on site football player sites, those of which have now been changed to the date in 1984.

This date was confirmed with a notice of his death in a local Plymouth newspaper on the 17th November reporting of his death yesterday.

Strauss made 2 wartime guest appearances for O's in 1941-42, including in a 3-2 home defeat against Tottenham Hotspur on 14 February 1942.

SULLIVAN

A reserve player from the 1944-45 season.

George Michael SUMMERBEE

Born in Winchester, Hampshire, 22 October 1914, Summerbee, a defender started with Basingstoke Town in 1932. Two years later he joined Aldershot and played alongside his brother Gordon making 19 League appearances with 0 goals over two seasons. In January 1955 he joined First Division side Preston North End for £650 but during eleven years at Deepdale, he made just 3 League appearances.

Although registered with Preston over the war years he spent most of his time in Portsmouth whilst working at local aircraft factory. He made 149 wartime appearances for Pompey with 2 goals.

In May 1946 he joined Division Three North side Chester for £600, making 9 League appearances in 1946-47, but he came to the fore with Barrow between 1947 and 1950, making 122 League appearances during his three-year stay his final League appearance came against Lincoln City in May 1950.

He joined non-league Cheltenham Town in June 1950 as player-manager, but he left in 1952 after his contract was not renewed and he then acted as a scout for Bristol City.

Summerbee is the Uncle of Mike Summerbee, the former Swindon Town, Manchester City, Burnley and Stockport County winger between 1960 and 1979, who also starred in the movie 'Escape to Victory' and grandfather of Nicky Summerbee who played for Swindon Town, Manchester City Sunderland and Bradford City between 1989 to 2006.

He died on 19 April 1955 in Cirencester from Addison's disease aged just forty.

George Summerbee made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1941-42

Donald Charles SUMMERSETT

Local amateur centre forward Don Summersett (sometimes listed as Sommersett) made 21 wartime appearances for O's, scoring six times, 10 appearances in 1942-43, scoring 5 goals against Charlton Athletic, Brighton & Hove Albion, Luton Town, Southampton and QPR and 11 appearances in 1943-44, scoring once against West Ham United and played against Reading on 26 February 1944 away and at home on 8 April 1944.

Summersett made 21 wartime appearances with 6 goals, including 1 goal in a 4-2 win at Charlton Athletic on 19 December 1942.

George Hedley SWINDIN

George Swindin was born in Campsall, Rotherham, Yorkshire, 4 December 1914. The brave and resilient goalkeeper started as an amateur with Rotherham YMCA and then onto New Stubbin Colliery. He moved to Rotherham United in 1932 but never made the first team.

He was with Bradford City in February 1933, making 26 League and 3 FA Cup appearances. It was with Arsenal, whom he joined in April 1936 for £4 000 that he made a name for himself, with 271 League, 23 FA Cup and 3 appearances in the FA Charity Shield for the Gunners between April 1936 and September 1953. His League debut came on 3 September 1936, a 0-2 defeat to Brentford and his final appearance came on 12 September 1953 a 1-7 defeat to Sunderland.

During the War years he along with a number of Arsenal players joined the RAF, he worked as a PT Instructor and so he did not see any action. He made 9 wartime appearances for Leeds United, his debut coming in a 3-0 win on 28 October 1939 against Bradford City. He also made 25 appearances for Oldham Athletic in 1941-42. He made 3 appearances in 1942-43 and 2 appearances in 1944-45 for Bradford City. He also made 1 appearance for Portsmouth in 1942-43. He also made 21 appearances for Arsenal between 1939 and 1945. After the War he returned to Highbury.

He represented an FA XI against the Army a 4-0 victory on 26 November 1947 played at the Goldstone Ground, Brighton before 8 000 spectators.

In the 1952-53 season he made 13 League appearances and therefore qualified for League Championship winners' medal.

In February 1954, he joined Midland League side Peterborough United as player-manager gaining a number of FA Cup successes and three Midland League titles. In August 1958 he was appointed manager of Arsenal but only had moderate success with the Gunners and he resigned in May 1962. He later

managed Norwich City for five months in 1962, Cardiff City between 1962 and 1964, Kettering Town in 1965 and Corby Town in 1969-70 before leaving the game to run his garage.

On 2 January 1961, a charity match was held when a George Swindin X1 took on a Showbiz X1 played at Bromfield Park, Palmers Green.

He retired to Spain where he spent several years but returned to live in Kettering, after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

He he died in Kettering, 26 October 2005, a couple of months before his nintieth birthday.

Swindin made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1942-43.

Reginald SWINFEN

Reg Swinfin was born in Battersea, south-west London, 4 May 1915. The outside right started playing with the Civil Service team in the 1934-35 season.

He joined Queens Park Rangers on 12 March 1936, making 67 League appearances and wartime appearances (26 in the League with 5 goals and 41 in wartime matches with 2 goals) for them, between March 1936 and 1947 (he once scored against for QPR against O's during November 1937 in a Third Division South Cups match). In 1945-46 he made 4 FA Cup appearances for QPR scoring 1 goal.

He served as a Corporal in the RAF and made 1 wartime appearance for Tunbridge Wells Rangers in November 1940, and 1 appearance for Brighton & Hove Albion on 10 April 1940, 1 appearance for Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic the next day on 11 April 1940 and 2 appearances for Huddersfield Town in 1941-42, and 2 appearances for Aberaman Town in 1943-44. He made 82 appearances with 222 goals for Queens Park Rangers, including playing once against O's on 11 December 1943.

In 1940 he married Alice Maud Turner. He joined Yeovil Town in May 1947 scoring 31 goals (18 Southern League, 8 in the League Cup and 5 in the Somerset Premier Cup) in 1947-48 and a total of 60 Southern League League and Cup. In 1948 he was with Tonbridge after their formation and election into the Southern League, a year later he was with Guildford City (*Although that club informed the Author that they have no record of him playing for them*).

In 1951 he was with Dover Athletic making 85 Southern League appearances with 3 goals. In May 1953 he signed for Crawley Town as player-coach, making his debut on 12 September 1953 versus Brighton Old Grammarians in the Sussex County League, scoring twice in a 3-3 draw. In all he made a total of 75 League and Cup appearances with 35 goals (10 pens) in three seasons

with the club, he played in a number of positions including once in goal. His final game came on 5 May 1956 against Hailsham in the County League.

He died in Crawley, Sussex during October 1996, aged eighty-one. His wife Alice died one year later.

Swinfen made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1939-40

Bertram ames TANN

Bert Tann, a Jewish charismatic man who was full of fun, being a 6ft and 11st 5lb inside left, he made 2 War time appearances for O's during October 1939.

He was born in Plaistow, east London, 4 May 1915, the son of a ship's painter. He was a West Ham Schoolboy and as a teenager an amateur with Clapton FC, Leyton FC and Romford. In 1931 he signed amateur forms with Clapton Orient, having arrived from a local Glasgow junior side but only appeared for the reserve side.

When with O's he worked at Whipps Cross Hospital but re-joined Romford in June 1932.

In 1933 he signed for Jimmy Seed at Charlton Athletic and during his five-year stay he made 19 League appearances with 2 goals.

During the war years he made in 1939-40 for Charlton, 8 WW2 appearances with 1 goal, 2 appearances with 0 goals in 1943-44 and 2 appearances with 0 goals in 1944-45 and 29 appearances with 0 goals and for Southampton in 1942-43 and 2 appearances in 1944-45, with West Ham United he made 1 appearance in 1941 and 1 appearance for Portsmouth.

After the war he coached Erith & Belvedere until 1948. He then went to coach in Norway with Fredrikstad Fotbaliklubb before moving back to England as manager of Bristol Rovers (January 1950 to 1968) and was also there Secretary / General Manager between 1968 and 1972.

Tann's record as manager with Bristol Rovers 1950 to 1968 was: P 867 W 359 D 210 L 298

Tann died in Bristol, 7 July 1972, aged fifty-eight when he was acting as General Manager, some profiles show his death being on 12 May 1972.

In November 2007, a 192-paged book was published covering his years as manager with Bristol Rovers entitled 'The Bert Tann Years - a personal memory'.

Tann's 2 WW2 appearances for O's came on 21 October 1939, a 2-1 win at Watford before 3000 fans and a week later in a 1-6 home defeat to Arsenal before 8 000 fans.

Stephen TANNER

Steve Tanner made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1939-40.

Harold William TAYLOR

Lal Taylor, as he was always known, was born in Boston, Lincolnshire, 20 December 1910, the family moved to Southport in 1921. He started off with local amateur team Vulcans FC, before joining Southport in November 1929, making a single league appearance. Hove moved to O's, in a double transfer with Jackie Mayson, on 16 July 1933.

The right-back was star player with O's during the League campaigns between 1933-34 to 1938-39, making 194 first team appearances with 16 goals over six seasons.

He appeared in two of the games in the expunged season of 1939-40. He was a regular in the wartime Regional League of 1939-40 before returning home to Southport, making 8 appearances for them with 2 goals in 1940-41, he retired soon after and died in the Southport Infirmary on 15 November 1970, aged fifty-nine.

Taylor made 27 wartime appearances for O's in 1939-40, including in a 5-1 win over Southend United and matches against Arsenal, Charlton Athletic, Crystal Palace and Watford.

James Guy TAYLOR

Centre half Jim Taylor was born in Cowley, Uxbridge on Monday, 5 November 1917, he started with the Lowe Sayer Club before moving onto Hillingdon British Legion and was a WW2 guest player with a number of sides' including Brentford with 1 appearance in 1943-44, Burnley with 5 appearances in 1944-45 and St. Mirren whilst serving with the Royal Navy. He guested for Fulham in WW2 matches making 90 appearances with 6 goals between 1939 and 1946.

He joined Fulham in March 1938 but did not make his League debut until after the war in August 1946. During WW2 he served in the Royal Navy.

He also made WW2 guest appearances for Portsmouth on 25 December 1940, Brentford with 1 appearance in 1943-44, Burnley with 5 appearances in 1943-44 and with St Mirren in 1944-45,

Taylor went onto to become one of Fulham's best ever centre halves, he made 261 League appearances, scoring 5 goals and 17 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals.

In 1950 he was selected on the FA X1 tour of Canada, on tour he netted a rare goal in a 19-1 victory over Saskatoon, although caps were awarded by the FA, they were not deemed as full caps straight after the tour both he and Stranley Matthews flew to Brazil as part of the England 1950 World Cup squad, Taylor was not selected to play. In May 1951 he did win an England cap in a 2-1

victory against Argentina at Wembley. his second cap again in the same month against Portugal.

He also represented the Football League three times.

Taylor moved to QPR in April 1953, making 44 League appearances before becoming player-manager with Kent League side Tunbridge Wells Rangers, winning the Kent Senior Cup, Kent Senior Shield and the Kent League Cup. He later managed Yiewsley - 1958-59 and Uxbridge from July 1959. On retirement from football, he worked as a painter and decorator at Windsor Castle until the early 1980s.

He died in Reading, Berkshire, 6 March 2001, aged eighty-three.

Taylor made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46.

David Watkin John THOMAS

Born Mile End, Stepney, London, 6 July 1917, Dave Thomas started off with Romford FC where he became a prolific goalscorer, before joining Plymouth Argyle in June 1938 on a free transfer, making 74 League appearances with 29 goals.

During WW2, the bulky centre forward guested for a number of clubs including Brentford with 10 appearances and 5 goals in 1944-45, Fulham with 42 appearances and 21 goals between 1940 and 1945, Gillingham, Grimsby Town with 27 appearances with 8 goals in 1941-42 and West Ham United with 1 appearance and 1 goal in the 1-0 victory over Clapton Orient on 31 March 1945 before 8 000 spectators. He made 6 appearances for Plymouth Argyle in 1939-40 and 16 appearances with 9 goals in 1945-46.

After WW2, he moved to Watford in February 1948 for £3 500, then Watford's club record fee, making his debut versus Northampton Town on 31 January 1948, in a 1-1 draw and he notched 41 goals from 105 League appearances and 4 goals from 6 FA Cup appearances. In October 1950, he joined Gillingham at the age thirty-three and another 42 goals followed from 80 League appearances.

In 1953, he joined Sittingbourne and the following year he was appointed manager of Chatham Town until leaving in November 1955. In 1956 he was the trainer with Gravesend & Northfleet, staying until 1958.

On retirement he ran a public house in Gillingham and later he moved to Dovercourt, a small seaside town in Essex, where in later years he suffered from heart trouble caused by the accumulative effects of playing football.

He died in Dovercourt, Essex, 30 March 1991, aged seventy-three.

Thomas made 4 wartime appearances for O's scoring 4 goals in 1939-40, one goal being at West Ham United, a 4-1 defeat on 22 February 1940 before 2 300 fans. The Plymouth Argyle registered player made his debut on 13 January 1940

versus Norwich City in a 1-1 draw replacing Shankly who had fractured his collar bone

Jack THOROGOOD

Thorogood was born in Dinnington, Yorkshire, 4 April 1911, a right winger who started his career with Frickley Colliery, he went for a trial with Manchester City but signed for Birmingham and between 1930 and 1934 he made 23 League appearances with 2 goals, his debut coming on 6 December 1930 in a 2-0 win over Huddersfield Town.

He joined Millwall in 1934 and during his five-year stay at the Den he played 75 League matches scoring 24 goals and 8 FA Cup matches with 4 goals. He also appeared for the Lions against O's in a Third Division Cups match in November 1936 and scored a hat-trick in the semi-final of the competition against Torquay United in April 1937 and made a total of 5 appearances in that Cup competition with 4 goals. He also netted a hat-trick (1 pen) in a 4-0 win over Crystal Palace on 18 April 1936.

He is the man who netted Millwall's 1000th Football League goal in a 3-1 win at Gillingham in the 1935-36 season. He signed for Doncaster Rovers in July 1939 but only played in Wartime games. He made a total of 69 appearances with 25 goals between 1939 and 1945. He made 1 'guest' appearance for Aldershot in 1939-40 and

1 appearance for Millwall in 1944-45 and a further 3 appearances with 2 goals in 1945-46.

He retired in 1945 and took up playing tennis, winning the Doncaster Tennis Cup twice.

He died in Bridlington, Yorkshire during 1970, aged fifty-nine.

Thorogood made 9 wartime appearances for O's in 1941-42

Albert George TIDSWELL

Left winger Bert Tidswell made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46 but appeared regularly for the reserve side (Sometimes wrongly listed as Lidswell).

Ernest William TOSER

Ernie Toser, a 6ft tall centre half, was born in Leyton, east London, 30 November 1913, he supported Clapton Orient as a young lad. He was an England Schoolboy international playing against Scotland in 1927 and also represented East London Schools. He was the first East London schoolboy to represent his county, during this time he worked for a local printing company.

He started his playing career with Tottenham Hotspur on junior forms, he had spells with both Eton Manor and Redhill and also trials with Luton Town, Southampton and Crystal Palace before moving to Dulwich Hamlet in 1930 and starred for then during 1930s winning two FA Amateur Cup final

medas in 1934 and 1937 both against Leyton, making over 200 appearances for Hamlet. In January 1935 he represented the South versus the North played at Chester where two referee's in each half of the field were used as an experiment.

He moved to Millwall in May 1937 making 2 League appearances in their Third Division Championship winning side and 3 Third Division south appearances with 0 goals, he was on their books for over eleven years. He then moved onto Notts. County in September 1946 at the age of thirty-three, making 2 League appearances. He played for Millwall during the war years, with 27 appearances between 1939 and 1946 but his stay was dogged by injuries with both cartilage and hernia operations. He did appear against the O's in January 1940.

Whilst serving in the RAF, he represented the Air Force in a few matches. He was also a PE instructor at the Sevenoaks Grammar School in Kent. He made 1 appearance for Aldershot in 1944-45.

He joined Bognor Regis as player-manager in December 1947, before returning to Dulwich in 1948 as trainer and stayed with the club until the mid-sixties' when he retired, having spent a period of four decades - 1930s to 1960s - with them.

At the time of his death, the Dulwich Hamlet website reported; Toser had played for Millwall between 1932 and 1938, making many appearances, including the winning of a Division Three (south) Championship medal in 1938. -- This information, which differs from that noted in various Football League record books, could not be verified by the Author. The Millwall Complete Record Book shows he made 2 Football League appearances for the Lions.

Toser died in Hastings on Monday 25 March 2003, aged eighty-nine with his funeral taking place on 5 April and he was remembered with a minute silence when Dulwich Hamlet faced Bognor Regis Town.

Toser made 1 wartime appearance at full-back for O's in 1939-40 in a 3-2 win at Tottenham Hotspur on 20 January 1940 before 5000 fans.

[Frederick Charles Arnold TULLY](#)

Burly right winger Fred Tully was born in St Pancras, London, Thursday, 20 June 1907, commencing his senior playing career with Aston Villa and between 1927-1932, he made 8 league appearances. He joined Southampton in August 1937 and gave them four-years of grand service making 101 league appearances, scoring 9 goals. He joined O's in June 1937.

He was with O's for their League campaigns between 1937 and 1939 and scored O's first ever league goal at Brisbane Road against Cardiff City on 28 August 1937. Despite his small height, he stood just 5ft 6in, and heaviness, he performed very well, looking lively down the wing

He remained with O's for the first few years of wartime Regional football. He also made 1 wartime appearance for Brighton & Hove Albion versus Clapton Orient on 26 December 1942 and 1 appearance for Charlton Athletic in 1939-40.

He retired from playing in 1943, joining his father's carpentry business in London and later he worked as an attendant at the Cheddeston Mental Home in North Staffordshire. He died in Edgware, Middlesex, 28 August 1973, having just turned sixty-six.

Tully made 81 wartime appearances for O's with 8 goals. He made 32 appearances with 3 goals in 1939-40, 1 of the goals being in a 3-2 win at Tottenham Hotspur on 20 January 1940, 15 League and 10 London Cup 'B' Division appearances with 1 goal in 1940-41 and 24 appearances with 4 goals in 1941-42

R. G. VALE

A reserve full-back from 1945-46. He played for the reserves at Luton Town in a London Combination fixture on 13 April 1946.

Edward VAUX

Full back Ted Vaux was born in Goole, Yorkshire, 2 September 1916, he started his career with Thorne Colliery before joining Goole Town in 1933. He joined Third Division North side Doncaster Rovers in 1934 but without any first team success but between 1936 and 1938, he made 29 League appearances with 0 goals for Mansfield Town.

In 1939, he joined Chelsea, but the war ended any chance of League football at Stamford Bridge. During WW2 he made 3 appearances for Chelsea in 1939-40 and 2 appearances in February 1945 for Hull City. After the War he played for Peterborough United, Irish side Glentoran and Midlands League side Gainsborough Trinity making 9 appearances with 0 goals before retiring from football in 1950.

He died in Doncaster, South Yorkshire, 6 April 2000, aged eighty-five.

Vaux made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1939-40, including a 7-0 defeat at Southend United on 31 December 1939.

Reginald Thomas WADE

Full back Reg Wade was born in Ilford, Essex during the first quarter of 1907, he started with Barking in 1924 before moving onto Millwall in 1925, but moved to Ilford FC the following year without playing any Football League games at the Den.

He won an FA Amateur Cup winners medal with Ilford in their 3-1 win over Leyton, played at Highbury Stadium on 20 April 1929.

He joined West Ham United in 1929 and during his two-year stay at Upton Park, he made 32 League and 1 FA Cup appearance with 0 goals. His League

debut came on 18 January 1930, a 4-1 win over Liverpool before 21 788 Boleyn fans. His final appearance came on 26 March 1932, a 1-1 draw with Arsenal before 34 852 fans.

In 1932, he moved to Aldershot, making 186 League appearances with 1 goal and 14 FA Cup appearances with 1 goal (his one and only goal came from a penalty against Bristol City on 6 March 1937) and 6 Third Division South Cup matches with 0 goals.

His League debut came in their inaugural Football League fixture at right back against Southend United on 27 August 1932, losing 1-2 and his debut in the First Round of the FA Cup, a 1-0 win at Clapton Orient on 26 November 1932.

He left The Shots in May 1937 and retired from the game. There are no records on his death.

Wade made 12 wartime appearances for O's, 2 in the League and 10 in the London Cup 'B' Division in 1940-41

[George A. WAKELY](#)

George Wakely a winger, (his surname was also shown in some reports as G. Watley), made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46, including one match at Port Vale on 13 October 1945. He also played regularly for the reserve side.

[Henry Harold WALLER](#)

Right half Harry Waller was born in Ashington, Northumberland, Monday, 20 August 1917. He started his career with his local team Ashington, before joining Arsenal in October 1937 and served them for ten-years (1936-1946), making just 8 first team appearances.

When with the Gunners he guested for O's on his return from the war, where he was based in the Army as a Corporal in Sicily, Italy. He made 6 War time appearances for West Ham United in 1940-41, 2 appearances in 1941-42, 1 appearance in 1942-43 and also 6 appearances for Brighton & Hove Albion in 1941-42 and 2 appearances with 1 goal for Watford in the same season 2 appearances for Watford in 1941-42. In 1942-43 he also made 2 appearances for Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic in 1941-42 and 1 appearance for Bradford City in 1942-43 and 2 appearances for Arsenal between 1940 and 1941 and a further 9 appearances in 1945-46. He made 1 appearance for Reading in 1942-43.

Waller was signed by O's, a year after WW2 ended, making 17 League appearances and 1 FA Cup appearance in 1946-47. He returned to Ashington in 1948. He died in that town during April 1984, aged sixty-six.

Waller made 2 wartime appearances in 1942-43. He also played at right back in friendly game on 1 May 1943, a 4-3 defeat.

Robert P. WALSH

Bob Walsh made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1944-45 and a few reserve appearances in 1945-46, including at Southend United reserves on 8 September 1945.

Henry WALTERS

Walters, a wing-half, was born Wath-on-Dearne, near Rotherham, Sunday, 15 March 1925, he started off with local side Wath Wanderers, who were the nursery side of Wolverhampton Wanderers before joining Wolves in June 1942 and starting off in the War league as a seventeen year old playing 4 games in 1942-43 with 1 goal and 10 games in 1942 and 8 appearances for Notts County in 1943-44.

In 1943, he was sent down to London on bomb damage patrols when he was signed up by the O's whilst still registered with Wolves. The 5ft 9in and 11st 9lb Walters made his mark with Walsall between May 1946 and 1952 with 254 League appearances and 2 goals. He once scored an own goal whilst playing for Walsall against O's on September 19, 1951, O's won 3-0.

After requesting a move away from Walsall he joined Barnsley in July 1953 as a part-time professional, working also as a joiner at Cortonwood Colliery and after seven years he totalled 160 League appearances with 4 goals and 12 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals playing a full back and in three half back positions. He received a benefit match which earned him £600. He was a member of their Third Division North Championship winning side of 1954-55 with 23 appearances.

In June 1960 he joined Wombwell as player-manager, he also played cricket for Cortonwood in the Yorkshire League, and was a member of their championship winning side of 1961 and also worked again down the Cortonwood Colliery. His son John played county cricket for Derbyshire in the 1970s.

He played in 414 League games during his career, scoring 6 goals and towards the end of his career he developed a bald patch which colleague teased him about and he told them it was because manager's kept patting him on the back of his head and saying 'Good game Henry, good game'

He died in Barnsley during May 1994, aged sixty-nine.

Walters made 30 wartime appearances for O's with one goal between 1944 and 1946. He made 18 appearances with 1 goal in 1944-45 against Reading on 6 January 1945 and 12 appearances in 1945-46

Richard WALTON

Dick Walton, a fair-haired right full back who was a guest player registered to Leicester City, making 28 appearances for them in 1942-43 and 3 appearances in 1943-44. He made 6 appearances for Chester in 1943-44 and 1 appearance for Middlesbrough in 1943-44.

Walton was born in Hull, Friday, 12 September 1924 and joined Leicester City on amateur terms in 1942 turning pro the following January.

In July 1948 he signed for the O's and stayed for four seasons making 63 League appearances with 4 goals. One of his goals being a memorable 45-yard dipping free-kick against Crystal Palace on 10 February 1951.

He moved to Exeter City in December 1951 and a month later he netted twice against O's in City's 6-1 victory and scored a further 5 goals from 135 appearances before signing for Tonbridge in May 1956, making 31 appearances and finished his playing career with Sittingbourne whilst working as an assistant Accountant throughout Kent.

Walton died on 23 June 2012 in Deal, Kent.

Walton made 1 wartime appearance on 10 April 1943, a 1-0 defeat at Queens Park Rangers

Jack WARNE

Local amateur left winger, Jack Warne made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1942-43 against Chelsea in a 3-1 win on 13 February 1943 and against Queens Park Rangers on 20 March 1943.

George WATLEY

He made 2 appearances in 1945-46.

Samuel WEAVER

Inside forward or left half Sam Weaver was born in Pilsley, North East Derbyshire, Monday, 8 February 1909. He started work at the pit-head in his native Derbyshire.

The 5ft 9in player who was capable of delivering an exceptionally long throw-in of around thirty-five yards, in one match it was measured at forty-eight yards, he was also noted for his aggression, yet he also showed plenty of skill.

He started his career off with Pilsley Red Rose FC before joining Sutton Junction and Sutton Town in August 1926. In March 1928, after a trial with Derby County he joined Hull City for a fee of £50, making 48 League appearances with 5 goals.

He moved onto Newcastle United in November 1929 for £2 500 and during his seven-year stay he proved to a great success making 204 League appearances, bagging 41 goals. Weaver gained 6 England caps against Scotland twice including at Hampden Park on 1 April 1932, a 2-1 defeat before a crowd of 134 710 and a 10-0 win over Northern Ireland on 17 October 1932 and won a FA Cup winner medal with the Tyneside club. In May 1934 he also played against Hungary and Czechoslovakia, both 2-1 defeats.

He signed for Chelsea in August 1936 for £4 166 and made a further 116 League appearances with 4 goals and 9 FA Cup appearances with 0 goals over

his three-year stay at Stamford Bridge. He played in the three expunged League games for Chelsea in 1939-40.

He guested for a number of clubs during the war years including Chelsea with 37 appearances with 5 goals in 1939-40, Southampton with 1 appearance in 1939-40, Fulham making 2 appearances in 1939-40, 3 appearances in 1940-41 and 1 appearance in 1943-44, Notts. County with 1 appearance and 1 goal in 1942-43, Derby County with 25 appearances and 3 goals in 1942-43, Mansfield Town with 1 appearance in 1943-44 and 1 appearance in 1945-46, West Ham United with 1 appearance and 1 goal in 1943-44, Leeds United in 1944-45 with 27 appearances and 2 goals, Wrexham with 10 appearances and 3 goals in 1945-46, Brighton with 2 appearances in 1943-44, and Stockport County with 22 appearances and 6 goals in 1945-46.

He ended his professional career with Stockport County after joining from Chelsea in December 1945 making 2 League appearances during 1946-47 and then retired during June 1947.

He moved into coaching with Leeds United (1947-49), Millwall (1949-54) before being appointed coach with Mansfield Town in September 1955 and was also masseur with Derbyshire CCC and then he was Mansfield's manager between August 1958 and January 1960 with a record of P92 W29 D19 L44. He had a long association with the Stags until 1971 as assistant -manager, coach, chief scout and Administrator.

Weaver was also a proficient cricketer playing for both Derbyshire and also played twice for Somerset in 1939.

He died on Monday 15 April 1985 in Basford, Nottinghamshire, aged seventy-six years and sixty-six days. His ashes were scattered over Field Mill the ground of his beloved Mansfield Town.

Weaver made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1943-44 including at right half at Reading, a 3-0 defeat, on 26 February 1944 and at left half also against Aldershot on 18 March 1944. a 0-5 defeat.

Eric John WEIGHTMAN

Left half back Eric Weightman was born in York, north Yorkshire, 4 May 1910, after a spell with Scarborough, he joined Middlesbrough in 1933, making 2 League appearances, his debut coming on 2 December 1933 against Sunderland and his second appearance only came in 1935.

He moved to Chesterfield in July 1935, making his debut on 7 October 1936, a 2-1 win over Newcastle United and went onto make 79 League appearances, scoring 1 goal. He joined Notts County during 1939 making just 2 League appearances.

During the War years he made 2 appearances with Notts County in 1939-40, 3 appearances at centre half for Watford, his debut was on 27 December 1941 a 2-1 loss at Charlton Athletic, his second appearance was on 3 January 1942, a

4-1 loss at West Ham United and his final appearance was on 10 January 1942 a 2-0 defeat at Brisbane Road against Clapton Orient before 3 000 spectators. He also made 14 appearances for Charlton Athletic in 1941-42.

He died in Surrey during 2002

Weightman made 7 wartime appearances for O's 2 in the League and 5 in the London Cup 'B' Division in 1940-41, including in an 8-1 defeat at West Ham United on 12 April 1941.

A.WELHAM

He was a reserve forward in 1946.

WELSH

A reserve player from the 1944-45 season.

Wilfred WHITFIELD

Whitfield was born in Chesterfield, Friday, 17 November 1916, Wilf or 'Baggy' as he known in his playing days was a wing half who started off with Birtley FC and Worksop Town. He also had a trial with Bury. He moved to Bristol Rovers in July 1938, making 26 League appearances with 1 goal and played for them either side of WW2. He also made 4 guest appearances for Queens Park Rangers in 1940-41.

During the War years he served as a Corporal in the Army anti-aircraft unit returning to Bristol Rovers in 1946. In August 1949, he joined Torquay United and appeared 47 times, scoring 1 goal before moving to Bath City in July 1951 with whom he made 100 appearances and scored 2 goals. He was also a decent cricketer, playing wicketkeeper.

He died in Hamilton, Lanarkshire during 1995, other websites show he died in Bath during 1970s, but his family have confirmed that his death was in Scotland during 1995.

Whitfield made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1944-45.

William Paul WHITTAKER

Born in Charlton, south London, Wednesday, 20 December 1922, centre half Bill Whittaker, an England Schoolboy international was on Arsenal's books as a junior.

During the war years he also guested for Fulham with 3 appearances in 1940-41, 2 appearances in 1942-43 and 1 appearance in 1944-45, West Ham with 1 apperaance on 24 May 1941, a 3-3 draw with Chelsea before 2 500 fans, Watford with 1 appearace in 1941-42, Chelsea, Plymouth Argyle with 1 appearance on 15 December 1945 and Brentford with 2 appearances in 1941-42 and 23 appearances in 1944-45. In the 1945-46 season, he also made 4 FA Cup appearances for Brentford.

After the war, he joined Charlton Athletic, making 28 League appearances between 1946 and 1948 and appeared for them in the 1947 FA Cup Final, a 1-0 victory over Burnley on 26 April before 99 215 Wembley fans. He joined Huddersfield Town in November 1948 for a reported £10 000, making 43 League appearances. Whittaker then returned to south London to join Crystal Palace in June 1950 and during his stay made 35 League appearances, scoring 1 goal.

In 1951 he moved to Cambridge United as player-manager just after they changed their name from Abbey United and stayed for four years.

He died in Greenwich, south London, 30 August 1977, aged fifty-four.

Note: There is sometimes confusion between two Bill Whittaker's on the football circuit at the time, this because both played for Brentford during the war years. He was an England amateur international who appeared for Nunhead and Kingstonian and also made guest appearances for Burnley for whom his father Fred played many years before.

Whittaker made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1939-40.

[WILKES](#)

A full back who played at Crystal Palace in a 5-2 defeat on 11 October 1941

[Jonathan Montague WILKINSON](#)

Auburn haired, quick-silver and nimble of foot the 5ft 8in centre forward, later known as Monty or Jon Wilkinson, was born in the small mining village of Esh Winning, in County Durham, 18 July 1908.

The pit worker started with Esh Winning F.C. and then was with Kelloe Colliery. In 1924 he went on trial with Sunderland but returned to the Esh Winning Club scoring over 100 goals in junior football. In 1925 he was with both Durham City and Crook Town. In May 1927 he joined Newcastle United for £250 but he was mostly a reserve player and understudy to the great Hughie Gallacher, making 27 League appearances with 11 goals, scoring a hat trick in 1928, in a remarkable 7-5 win over Aston Villa. He mostly played when Gallacher was on international duty or injured.

He joined Everton in June 1929 for £675, as understudy to another top goalscorer in Dixie Dean, making just 11 League appearances with two goals and 1 FA Cup appearance. In 1931, he moved to Blackpool in March 1931 and netted 15 goals from 60 League appearances.

Wilkinson came south to join Charlton Athletic and up to May 1939, he made 225 League appearances, scoring 48 goals over eight seasons, played an important part in their rise up the Football League. He served with the RAF in Burmah during WW2, and made 16 appearances for Charlton in 1939-40

After the war, he resided in Lincoln before returning to the north-east to become a cinema manager in Washington, Co. Durham.

His son wrote a book for kindle viewers on his Father's life story published in February 2014.

He died in Newcastle upon Tyne, 19 September 1979, aged seventy-one.

Wilkinson made 3 wartime appearances for O's in 1943-44, including in a 3-0 win at Aldershot on 22 April 1944.

[Roderick WILLIAMS](#)

Rod Williams was born in Newport, Wales, 2 December 1909, but grew up in Wandsworth, south-west London. He earned a reputation as a good hard-hitting centre forward with Norwich City, when smashing 106 goals for their reserve side before moving to Reading, he then signed for West Ham United in November 1937 for £4 000

The 5ft 10in and 11st 10lb striker moved to O' during July 1938 and was the top goalscorer in the 1938-39 season with 18 League and Cup goals. He netted 2 goals from 3 League appearances in 1939 before the season was stopped due to WW2 and all records for that season expunged. Williams made a handful of appearances for O's in Wartime Regional League matches before retiring in 1942. He died in East Dereham, Norfolk in August 1987, aged seventy-seven.

Williams made 2 wartime appearances for O's. He made 1 appearance in 1940-41 and 1 appearance in 1942-43

[James WILLIAMSON](#)

Jimmy Williamson was born in Falkirk, Scotland, 22 September 1922. The Scottish Schoolboy international inside forward joined his local juvenile side Dunipace Thistle who won the Scottish Juvenile Cup. On 3 August 1940 he signed for Falkirk but after making 4 appearances he enlisted in the RAF and also made 1 guest appearance for Bradford Park Avenue in 1942-43.

After the war he joined Highland League side Devronvale and in seven year between 1948 and 1955, netting 194 goals and they won the Aberdeenshire Trophy twice including a 2-1 win over Peterhead in 1951. The following season he smashed five goals in an 8-1 victory over Inverness Thistle. He had a testimonial against Glasgow Rangers, which the visitors won 5-0. He hung up his boots in 1955 and moved away from the district.

He died in the Portsoy, a village in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, 4 March 1998, aged seventy-five.

Jimmy Williamson, a player registered with Scottish side Falkirk made 2 wartime appearance for O's in 1942-43 whilst still registered with the Scottish side.

[George James WILLSHAW](#)

George Willshaw was born in Hackney, east London, 18 October 1912. The right winger started off with Southall and on 30 November 1935 he scored one of their goals in a 3-1 win over Bristol City in the FA Cup before 7 100 spectators, and then after a short spell with Walthamstow Avenue he moved onto Southend United in February 1936 and scored on his League debut the next month in a 3-1 win over Swindon Town. He went onto make 28 League appearances with 6 goals and 4 FA Cup appearances with 1 goal.

He was transferred to Bristol City in June 1938 and made 34 League appearances with 9 goals and 34 FA Cup appearances with 1 goal.

The left-winger joined O's for the expunged season of 1939-40 , playing in all three matches, he also played in four seasons during the wartime Regional Leagues'. He missed out on playing for O's in the two-legged FA Cup ties against Newport Isle of Wight in November 1945 due to serving abroad in the forces.

He returned to O's after the war marking his League debut, the first game of league football after the war on 31 August 1946, with a goal against Ipswich Town, after seven seasons of wartime football before a Brisbane Road crowd of 12 530 fans. He made a total of 12 appearances that season with 2 goals.

He was released by O's in May 1947, he went on trial with Margate in September 1947, making his debut in a 1-0 defeat to Betteshanger on 27 September and also played on 4 October against Dartford, a 3-0 loss in the FA Cup. He left then shortly after.

He died in Portsmouth during September 1993, a month before his eighty-first birthday.

Willshaw made 69 wartime appearances for O's with 28 goals. He made 26 appearances with 10 goals in 1939-40, including 2 goals in a 4-3 win over Aldershot on 4 May 1940, 7 appearances with 2 goals in 1940-41, 16 appearances with 8 goals in 1941-42 and 20 appearances with 8 goals(2 goals against Charlton on 19 December 1942) in 1942-43

[Alexander Adams WILSON](#)

Goalkeeper Alex Wilson was born in Wishaw, Scotland, 29 October 1908. He started off as a junior player with Overton Athletic whilst working as lathe operator before signing with Greenock Morton in 1927 and spent six seasons with them and was in the side that won the Second Division Championship.

He moved to Arsenal in May 1933, making his League debut on 10 March 1934 against Aston Villa, a 3-2 win, although the Gunners won the First Division, he did not play enough games to gain a winners' medal. In 1935-36 he played most of the season, with 43 appearances and kept goal in the FA Cup Final against Sheffield United, a 1-0 victory.

In 1941 he returned to Scotland joining St Mirren. In 1945-46 he made 1 wartime appearance for Brighton and again later had a brief spell with

Brighton playing in 1 Third Division south match in 1947-48. When he retired from playing to when he pursued a career in training and physiotherapy with Brighton, Birmingham City, Sunderland and Blackpool as well as with the Kent County Cricket Club.

In 1967, he emigrated to the United States to work as physio with the Boston Beacons of the NASL when they folded a year later, he decided to stay in the States until his death in Boston, Mass on 16 March 1971, aged sixty-two.

Wilson made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1939-40 in a 4-3 win over Aldershot on 4 May 1940 before 4 500 fans and he also made a few reserve appearances.

Charles WILSON

Charlie Wilson a 5ft 8in and 10st 10lb wing half registered with Burnley at the time that he made his single appearance for O's. He joined Burnley in the summer of 1945 having lived at home with his family in Dartford, Kent.

He was in the RAF and stationed at Wilmslow, Cheshire where he worked in the hospital on the RAF base as a medical orderly.

He made 16 WW2 Football League North appearances during his time at Turf Moor with his debut coming on 25 August 1945 against Liverpool, a 1-3 home defeat.

Smith made 1 Wartime FA Cup appearance for them on 7 January 1946 against Stoke City, a 2-1 home win in the two-legged tie.

His final appearance for Burnley came in a Football League North game on 12 January 1946, a 2-2 draw against Sheffield Wednesday. He was released the following May.

Wilson made 1 wartime appearance for O's in April 1946 whilst on trial, but he never obtained a contract for the commencement of the Football League season in August 1946. He also made some appearances for O's reserves including in a 13-0 victory against Brentford reserves on 16 December 1944, scoring 1 goal.

Lewis Christopher WOODROFFE

Lewis Woodroffe -also sometimes shown as Lew - was born in Portsmouth, Saturday, 29 October 1921. During the war years he served in the Army.

The fast outside right was on amateur forms with Manchester City between October 1945, signing pro forms two months later, making 6 wartime appearances with 2 goals and 9 Football League appearances in 1946-47 with 1 goal. His League debut came in a 3-1 win at Millwall on 14 June 1946 and final game came in a 0-0 draw at Luton Town on 7 April 1947.

He moved to Watford on a free transfer in June 1947 making a further 63 League appearances with 6 goals and 1 FA Cup appearance with 0 goals between 1947 and May 1951.

Finally, he joined Kent League side Canterbury City in June 1951 until 1953, although Watford retained his registration and he stayed on the transfer list at £500 for three-years. In August 1953 he joined Margate before retiring from the game in March 1955.

He died in Worthing during 2015.

Woodroffe made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1941-42.

WOOLTON

An amateur full-back named Woolton played in a 2-0 defeat at Crystal Palace on 11 October 1941.

WOOTTON

He was a reserve forward who scored 1 goal in the 1942-43 season.

Douglas Arthur WRAMPLING

Amateur goalkeeper Doug Wrampling was born in Orsett, Essex, 8 October 1922, son of Arthur Charles (born 1882 and died 1927) and Ellen (born 1882) Wrampling. He was with O's between 1945 and 1947

He died on 24 August 1997 in Southend -on-Sea, Essex, aged seventy-four.

Doug Wrampling made 4 wartime appearances for O's in 1945-46 with several appearances for the reserve side during that same season.

Robert Cooper Allen WRIGHT

Left half Bob Wright was born in Glasgow, Scotland, 20 February 1916, he started his career in Local Scottish football before going south of the border to try his luck.

In 1931 he was with Hartlepoons United and a year later with Crook Town. In 1935 after unsuccessful trials with both Manchester United and Millwall, he joined Horden Colliery Welfare.

He moved to Charlton Athletic in 1937 for a £100 fee and was registered with them during the war years, making a total of 40 League and 47 wartime appearances with 2 goals all between 1938 and 1947 for the south London side, including 19 League appearances in 1938-39, 3 wartime appearances and 9 League appearances in 1946-47. He also made 19 wartime appearances for Middlesbrough between 1941 and 1944.

He retired from playing in 1947 and was appointed assistant manager under Jimmy Seed at Charlton Athletic during September 1947.

In April 1949 he was appointed manager of Bristol City but in June 1950 after complaining about interference from the City Board he resigned from the club. His record was P43 W17 D15 L21

He became a licensee in Bristol, until being appointed assistant manager under Bert Tann at Bristol Rovers in July 1951 but left a year later to become the licensee of the White Hart Public House in Lower Maudlin Street, Bristol.

Wright died in Bristol during 1998.

Wright made 2 wartime appearances for O's in 1939-40

William Peter WRIGHT

Bill Wright, a 6ft centre half, was born in Sheffield during 1903, who in his younger days made 1 League appearance for O's against Torquay United on 10 October 1931, a 1-3 defeat. In December 1932 he represented the London Combination, before he was appointed as a trainer. He acted as Secretary-Manager of team affairs during the wartime and during emergencies had to play twenty times to make up the numbers, with even two outings in goal.

He acted as O's Secretary-Manager from 2 December 1939 until after the War.

Wright resigned as O's manager on 25 September 1945, with Willie Hall taking over but remained at the club as trainer. In 1946 he acted as the masseur. He had a brief stint as caretaker-manager between September and October 1946, when boss Charlie Hewitt walked out after being refused funds for new payers, but he returned that October.

Bill Wright left O's to take over as manager of the newly formed team Chingford Town on 17 April 1948 and employed his namesake William Bulloch Wright, a former O's caretaker - manager, as his coach. He lived and worked in Birmingham until his death during October 1983, aged eighty.

Wright made 20 wartime appearances for O's. He made 13 League and 4 London Cup 'B' Division appearances in 1940-41 and 2 appearances in 1941-42 and 1 appearance in 1944-45, aged forty-two He played in goal on a number of times, including on 14 September 1940, a 2-1 defeat to Southend United and on 7 December 1940 at Luton Town, a 4-0 defeat, this because of a shortage of players.

Archibald Wishart YOUNG

Archibald Young was with O's - having signed from Rochdale on Tuesday 25 July 1939 but due to the outbreak of WW2, he never got a chance of playing for O's in the Football League.

Born in Twechar, Killintilloch, Dumbartonshire, Scotland, 10 December 1906, he started as a junior with Kilsyth Rangers and also with Dunipace Juniors in July 1931 after a trial with Preston North End in April 1931, he joined Dunfermline Athletic in July 1931, making his debut in August 1931, a 3-0 victory over Armadale playing down the left wing. He went onto make 35 Scottish League appearances with 5 goals.

The 6ft 1in and 11st 5lb converted half-back joined Leicester City on 16 April 1932, making his League debut on the 29 October 1932 at left half, an 8-2

defeat at Arsenal in front of 36 714 spectators. He made a further 14 League appearances and 1 FA Cup appearance with 0 goals, his final appearance for the club being a 6-3 defeat at Manchester City on 2 February 1935.

Young moved to Bristol Rovers on 27 July 1935 and appeared at left half in Rovers record League defeat at the hands of Luton Town by 12-0 in April 1936 (in goal that day for Rovers was another former 'Oriental' John Ellis). He made 15 appearances with 0 goals for Rovers.

Young joined Exeter City on 18 June 1936, making his debut on 31 August 1936 against Notts County; he made a total of 18 League and 3 Cup appearances.

He then joined Gillingham in May 1937, making a further 21 League appearances, in a season that they failed to secure their League status., so he moved to Rochdale in September 1938, but made just a single League appearance but was not seen in the Football League again,

He died in Exmouth a seaside resort in East Devon, 5 July 1980, aged seventy-three.

Archibald Young made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1945-46.

Cecil Rodney YOUNG

Wing half Cecil Young was born in Bournemouth, 22 July 1925, during the war, he was registered with Southampton. After the war, he was still at the Dell without making any senior appearances.

In June 1948, he joined Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic, making 18 League appearances; he went out on loan to Cheltenham Town on 8 December 1949 and stayed until the end of the season.

He left Bournemouth in June 1950 to join Chelmsford City making 18 appearances with 0 goals for the Essex side but left them in June 1951.

He died in Bournemouth during 1991.

Cecil Young made 1 wartime appearance for O's in 1942-43.

Alexander William YOUNGER

Centre-forward Alex Younger was born in Kelty, Fife, Scotland, 8 September 1919. He started his career with Thornton Hibs in the Fife Junior League. He joined Partick Thistle on 15 May 1939, making his Scottish Regional League West debut against Albion Rovers in a 0-1 defeat on 18 November 1939. He netted his first goal against Glasgow Celtic in a 4-2 victory in the Scottish Regional League West fixture on 9 December 1939.

On 5 December 1941 he went on loan to East Fife making his debut the day after against St Bernards and stayed for the remainder of the season, scoring 7 goals from 9 appearances. He made 1 wartime appearance with 1 goal for

Watford in 1943-44 and 1 appearance for Brighton & Hove Albion in 1943-44 and 1 appearance for Aldershot in 1943-44.

In 1945, he returned to Partick Thistle making 1 appearance in the War Emergency Cup, he made 4 further League and Cup appearances with 1 goal. In 1946 he played one further game, in the Scottish League on 23 March 1946 a 2-2 draw at Kilmarnock.

In May 1946 he joined Scottish Second Division side Ayr United and stayed for two seasons before being released on 30 April 1948. He died in Fife during the second quarter of 1971, aged fifty-one.

Younger, whilst still registered with Partick Thistle, made 8 wartime appearances for O's in the 1944-45 season, scoring 4 goals, 1 goal came against Watford and he scored a hat-trick against QPR both in January 1945. He also appeared in a 4-0 defeat at Tottenham Hotspur on 18 November 1944.

The MANAGERS DURING THE WAR YEARS

Orient had four managers during the War years, between August 1939 until August 1946 when the Football League commenced again after a seven year break, namely:

Thomas William Halsey

William Peter Wright

George William Hall

Charles William Hewitt
