

Players Parade at Goodison Park

Appearance record to end of 1969-70 season

Football League – Division 1

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By Alan Williams, Daily Express, in Everton Matchday Magazine

MANCHESTER CITY

Alan Oakes

Longest-serving first-team at Maine Road is the beefy linkman ALAN OAKES – yet he’s still only 27 and almost forced into the Mexico reckoning when he joined last season’s training session’s. So far, Under-23 and Inter-League appearances are the nearest the Winsford “powerhouse” has got to the major honour. But manager Mercer rates him “my best all-round player”.

Alan Oakes’s League career:

Manchester City Apps. 382 Goals 19

Colin Bell

City’s next forward line investment was on COLIN BELL, who was bought from Bury in time to make 11 Second Division appearances at the end of 1965-66. Bell hasn’t looked back since. Tipped to be “another Peter Doherty” by manager Mercer, he has established at the ideal combination of schemer-worker-striker – unique qualities which enabled him to score 15 goals last season while acting as the side’s chief provider.

First capped for England in 1968, going on to the 1969 South American tour and the World Cup expedition to Mexico. At 24, his best international is still to come.

Colin Bell’s League career: Bury Apps. 82 Goals 25 Manchester City Apps. 158 Goals 55

Francis Lee

The final piece in Manchester City’s team-building jig-saw came when FRANCIS LEE was signed from Bolton for £60,000 in time to provide 16 goals from 31 matches during the Championship season.

At Bolton, “Franny” was a ground-staff boy at the same time as Alan Ball yet they didn’t link on the senior scene until Lee reached the England team in 1969.

Francis has graduated to become Englands twin-striker with Geoff Hurst – and he is also one of the penalty takers. Rated as one of the best dead-ball kickers in the business converting the majority of his penalties, now numbering around the 40 mark.

Francis Lee’s League career:

Bolton Apps. 189 Goals 92
Manchester City Apps. 104 Goals 41

Freddie Hill

A surprise name in City’s midfield this season is FREDDIE HILL, making making a First Division comeback at the age of 30. Yorkshire-born Hill, who won England caps against Ireland and Wales in 1963, dropped out of the top section when Bolton was relegated in 1964. His status declined further when he was released to Halifax Town for last season, but Alan Ball snr, then the Shay Ground boss “revived” Freddie’s form and Manchester City took a £12,000 gamble when signed the skilling ball player in the summer. Freddie went straight into the team at Southampton.

Freddie Hill’s League career:

Bolton Apps. 373 (1) Goals 74
Halifax Apps. 25 Goals 3

George Heslop

With Booth hurt, City are fortunate to have the dependable GEORGE HESLOP on stand-by duty. George a Geordie who played for Newcastle before moving to Goodison Park, was understudy to Brian Labone in his Everton days, but a big fee took him to Maine Road – and a Championship medal.

The emergence of Booth demoted him again but he came back to play specialist marking roles, with a disguise of a No 7 shirt in the League Cup and Cup winner’s Cup Finals.

George Heslop’s League career:

Newcastle Apps. 27
Everton Apps. 10
Manchester City Apps. 133 (2)

Glyn Pardoe

A former schoolboy sprinter who played for England's school soccer team as a centre forward now occupies the left back spot for City. The name GLYN PARDOE, a local product from Winsford who became City's youngest ever player when making his debut at 15 years 314 days. Versatile Glyn, a big success on England's 1969 Under-23 tour, can also operate as a powerful midfield player – just as he did at Wembley last March in scoring the winning goal in the League Cup Final against Albion

Glyn Pardoe's League career:

Manchester City Apps. 240 (1) Goals 17

Harry Dowd

No club are so well off for goalkeepers as Manchester City. In successive seasons they have landed major honours – with a different keeper each time. Ken Mulhearn signed from nearby Stockport County, was the regular choice in the 1968 Championship success.

Then he lost his place to the senior member of the City trio, local man HARRY DOWD, who collected a Wembley medal in the 1969 FA Cup Final.

But Harry's return to power was interrupted by the appearance of big Joe Corrigan and Harry had a short spell on loan to Stoke City. Corrigan, the 6 ft 4,5 ins giant, won two medals last season in the League Cup and the European Cup Winners Cup and reached the England Under-23 squad.

Harry Dowd's League career:

Manchester City Apps. 181
Stoke City Apps. 3

Ian Bowyer

Five goals in his first six games of last season made 18-year-old IAN BOWYER a rousing success at the start of his first full year of First Division education. It was a cheerful spell for the red-haired youngster who had to get over the memory of being carried off with concussion of his League debut at Newcastle in 1969. Bowyer held a regular place until February last season, then had to drop out and miss full appearances in the two Cup Finals. However, he had the consolation of being picked as 12th man and actually appearing against Albion at Wembley and Gornik Zabrze in Vienna.

Ian Bowyer's League career: Manchester City Apps. 36 (4) Goals 13

Joe Corrigan

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Joe Corrigan's League career:

Manchester City Apps. 38

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Ken Mulhearn's League career:

Stockport Apps. 100
Manchester City Apps. 50

Mike Doyle

MIKE DOYLE's career was always on a set course for the top – progress coming in regular stages from Stockport Boys, Cheshire Boys, Manchester City's Central League team at 15, a League introduction at 17, and then a collection of England Under-23 caps.

But there was nothing orderly about this Manchester man's debut at Cardiff City's Second Division promotion team. A late injury meant an emergency call for Mike to join the party

flying from Ringway to Cardiff, but he had no car and only by a stroke of luck did he find team-mate Vic Gommersall, who dashed him off to the airport.

Mike Doyle's League career:

Manchester City Apps. 157 (5) Goals 9

Mike Summerbee

A trio of England internationals make up the core of the devastating City attack. And they represent three of the wisest transfer moves in recent seasons. First on the scene was MIKE SUMMERBEE, signed from Swindon Town as a winger in August, 1965.

Mike "grew up" in a young Swindon team which reached promotion to Division Two in 1963.

He gained a another "promotion" medal at the end of his first season with City and then switched to centre forward to win two caps in 1968. Was in the final 40 under consideration for the Mexico World Cup.

Mike Summerbee's League career:

Swindon Apps. 218 Goals 39

Manchester City Apps. 186 (1) Goals 34

Neil Young

City fans reckon that the home-bred number of the striking force – NEIL YOUNG, the lanky 26-year-old who scored the winner at Wembley in 1969 – should have joined his colleagues in the England squad. Neil, of the lethal left foot, started out as a dangerous winger, hitting a hat-trick for England Youth in 1961-62, the year of his League debut, and then grabbing a treble against Arsenal in his early League days.

Neil Young's League career:

Manchester City Apps. 305 Goals 85

Tommy Booth

City's half back line has a brilliant young centre-pin in TOMMY BOTH, the alim 20-year-old six-footer who broke into the national headlines when manager Mercer compared him with Stan Cullis.

A local Manchester boy, Tommy has won Under-23 caps, but it was a single goal that really pitched Tommy into the limelight. Yes, it was the one that knocked us out of the 1969 FA

Cup semi-final at Villa Park. Tommy missed the start of the season because of an ankle injury.

Tommy Both's League career:

Manchester City Apps. 69 Goals 1

Tony Book

TONY BOOK has just signed a new contract that could tie him to Manchester City until he is 40. That, if any proof was needed, emphasises just how much the Maine Road management of Mercer and Allison think of one of the most honoured skippers of the post-war period.

In four seasons with City he has been their captain in winning every honour available – with the exception of an unhappy entry in the European Champions Cup two seasons ago. Three major Cups, the League Championship Trophy and the FA Charity Shield – plus a share of The Footballer of the Year with Dave Mackay in the 1968-69 – represent the staggering achievement of a man who never stopped on to a First Division field until he was 30. He scorned the big time by combining work as a stonemason with part-time football for Frome Town and then full professional with Bath City. He was finally “discovered” by Malcolm Allison, going with his Southern League boss for two seasons at Plymouth and then following Allison again to Maine Road for £17,000 in 1966.

Tony Book's League career:

Plymouth Apps. 81 Goals 3
Manchester City Apps. 136 Goals 1

Tony Towers

Sixteen months ago, TONY TOWERS made his Manchester City debut a week after his 17th birthday. The young Youth international earned a Mercer tribute that he was the best player on the field – not a bad start to a career that is tipped to mature this season.

Manchester-born Towers started the season with a commission to tight mark Ron Davies at Southampton.

Tony Tower's League career:

Manchester City Apps. 7 (1) Goals 1