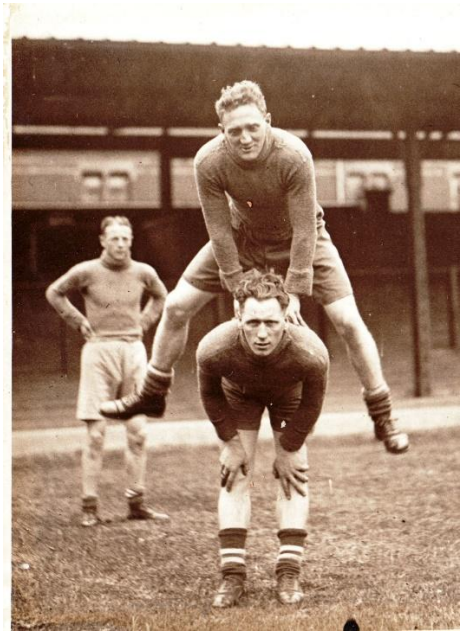
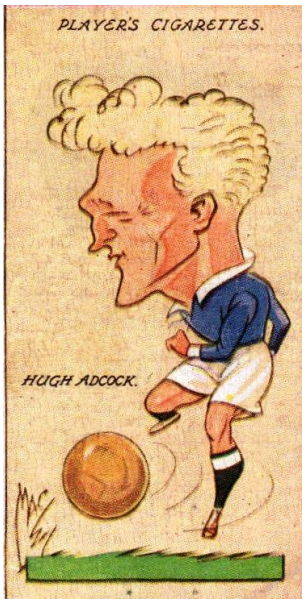
LEICESTER CITY LANDLORDS

Throughout the history of the professional game, players have faced the problem of what to do when they hang up their boots. Many Leicester Fosse and Leicester City players took over pubs, several of which have now disappeared. This season we will be rediscovering and revisiting these 'Players' Pubs' and uncovering the stories about them and about the landlords who ran them.

The Player: Hughie Adcock





Hughie was one of L eicester City's all time great players. Born in Coalville, he was speedy and tricky outside-right. He was only 5'4" tall and his diminutive stature had resulted him being a pit pony boy in the mines before he became a professional footballer. Only two players, Graham Cross and Adam Black, played more first team games than Hughie who made 460 appearances for City between 1923 and 1935. He won a Second Divison title medal in 1925 and was a key member of the Leicester City side which came within a point of winning the League title in 1929. He won five England caps, scoring one goal in 1929. He was also selected to represent the Football league against Scotland in 1929. When appearing for England, he played alongside his Leicester teammates Len Barry and Ernie Hine as well as alongside his cousin, Birmingham City's Joe Bradford.

The Pub: The Horse and Trumpet, Sileby

After finishing his career at Bristol Rovers in 1936 Hughie played for Folkstone. Then he became landlord at the Horse and Trumpet in Sileby in the years leading up to the War. In the late 1930s, Sileby was a small industrial village with a surprising number of hosiery and boot factories, together with a railway station. He was a congenial landlord with a huge interest in all sports. He loved going tot he races. He

was also an accomplished pianist, with a particular liking for the music of Billy Halliday. His son remembered how he had the ability to hear a song and then just play it. As he used to advertise

Leicester's Palace Theatre Variety Shows in his pub he received two tickets weekly to go to the Monday afternoon matinees. Unfortunately, the pub did not thrive financially and just before the War, Hughie gave it up and, with his family, moved to a small cottage next door to his mother's house in his hometown of Coalville. His football injuries, particularly his damaged hip, meant that he failed his army medical. Turning his back on the pub industry he became a maintenance engineeer for many years at Clutsom and Kemp, a Coalville factory which manufactured yarn and textile products. After his retirement, Hughie continued to live in Coalville where he died in 1975.