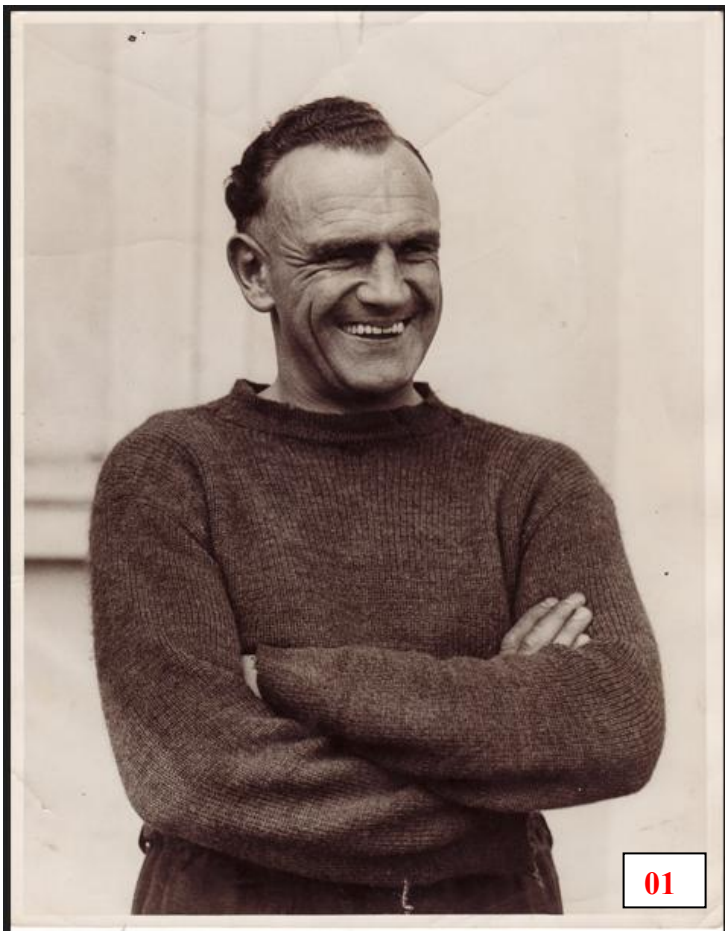
Leicester City Locations

There are many locations in Leicester and Leicestershire which have been very significant in the history of Leicester Fosse and Leicester City.

Some of the buildings have long gone, some have changed and some are still with us. Club Historian John Hutchinson's new series revisits each of these sites and tells the story behind them.

Arthur Chandler's homes

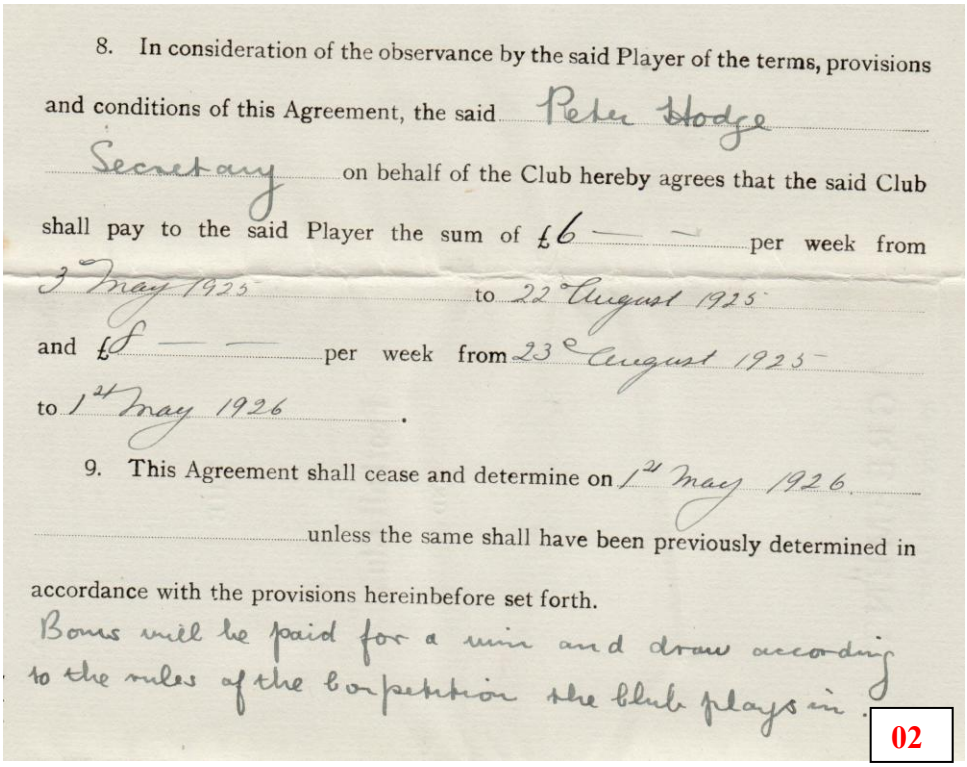
Nowadays it's hard to imagine a time when the nation's top football stars lived in terraced houses within walking distance of their club's ground.



This however was the experience of Leicester City's record goal scorer Arthur Chandler **(Picture 01)**.

Between signing for the Club in 1923 and moving to Notts County at the end of his Leicester City career in 1935, Arthur lived in a variety of houses which were all close to Filbert Street.

The source of this information is the collection of Arthur's contracts which are in the Club's archive. In keeping with the practice of the time, these were all yearly contracts, each one containing Arthur's current home address.



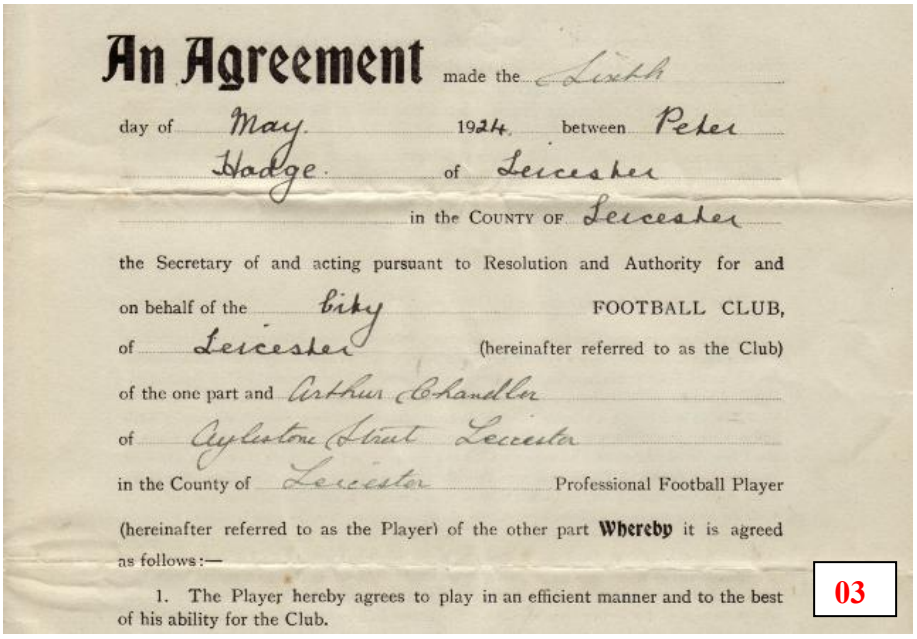
8. In consideration of the observance by the said Player of the terms, provisions and conditions of this Agreement, the said Peter Hodge Secretary on behalf of the Club hereby agrees that the said Club shall pay to the said Player the sum of £6 — — per week from 3 May 1925 to 22 August 1925 and £8 — — per week from 23 August 1925 to 1st May 1926.

9. This Agreement shall cease and determine on 1st May 1926 unless the same shall have been previously determined in accordance with the provisions hereinbefore set forth.

Bonus will be paid for a win and draw according to the rules of the Competition the Club plays in.

02

The contracts also reveal that for most of his career at Leicester City, he earned £6 a week in the close season and £8 per week during the season plus bonuses **(Picture 02)**. This compared very favourably with the average worker's wage in 1926 of about £1.60 per week.

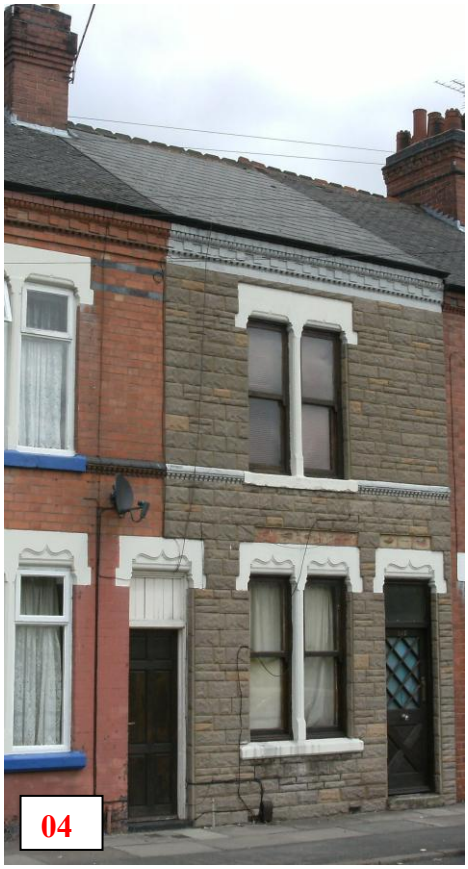


An Agreement made the Sixth day of May 1924 between Peter Hodge of Leicester in the County of Leicester the Secretary of and acting pursuant to Resolution and Authority for and on behalf of the City FOOTBALL CLUB, of Leicester (hereinafter referred to as the Club) of the one part and Arthur Chandler of Aylestone Street Leicester in the County of Leicester Professional Football Player (hereinafter referred to as the Player) of the other part **Whereby** it is agreed as follows:—

1. The Player hereby agrees to play in an efficient manner and to the best of his ability for the Club.

03

Until he moved in 1925, Arthur lived in Aylestone Street **(Picture 03).** During the 1924-25 season he scored 32 league goals in 42 matches in addition to another 6 FA Cup goals. He was just ahead of skipper Johnny Duncan who scored 30 league goals and another four FA Cup goals. Their achievements contributed to Leicester City winning the Second Division title that season, only six years after the club had been reconstructed as Leicester City, replacing the old Leicester Fosse.



Playing for the first time in the old First Division, Arthur then moved to 147 Filbert Street **(Picture 04)** for the next two seasons during which he scored 55 league and FA Cup goals as the Club consolidated itself in the top flight, finishing in seventh place in 1927. His front door was directly behind the Filbert Street end of the ground, only a stone's throw from where he scored so many of his goals. That season also saw Arthur representing the Football League against the Scottish League in a match at Filbert Street.

Arthur's home the following season (1927/28) was at 31, Norman Street **(Picture 05)** which was off Narborough Road to the north of Upperton Road. His 34 goals in the league were a major factor in the Club finishing third in the topflight in 1928, behind Everton and the impressive Huddersfield Town who had won three consecutive First Division titles that decade.

At the end of the season, Arthur moved again, for a year only, to nearby 34 Equity Road, **(Picture 06)** not far from the Equity Shoe factory which closed in 2009. Whilst living there, he scored 34 league goals which helped propel Leicester City to runners-up spot in the old First Division in 1929, the Club's highest position until they became Premier League Champions in

2016. A personal highlight for Arthur was scoring a double hattrick in the 10-0 defeat of Portsmouth in the famous ‘six swans’ match in October 1928.

Arthur’s penultimate house move was to 2 Latimer Street **(Picture 07)** where he lived during the 1929/30 season, when he was, for the seventh season in a row, the Club’s top scorer with 32 league goals as his team finished in eighth position.

His final move, to 68 Lambert Road, **(Picture 08)** came in 1931, where he resided for the remainder of his time as a Leicester City player and for several years beyond that

All of the houses that Arthur lived in are still standing.

Few people walking past them today are aware that they were all the homes of one of Leicester City's most famous players who scored a Club record 273 goals in 419 appearances. **(Picture 09)**