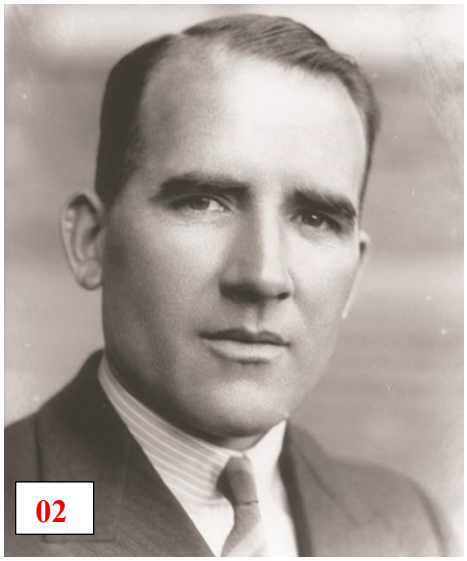
Leicester City Locations

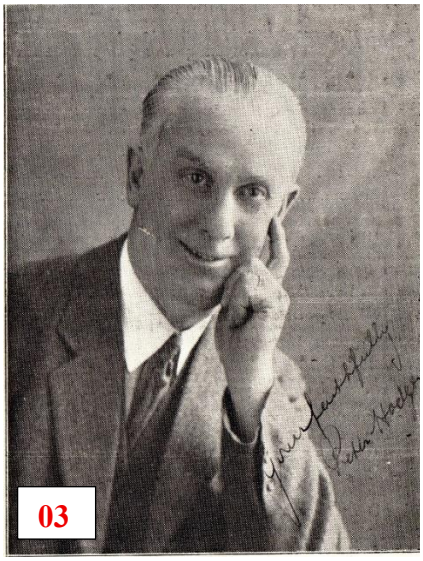
There are many locations in Leicester and Leicestershire which have been very significant in the history of Leicester Fosse and Leicester City.

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 Lochhead's Radio and Music Shop in Loseby Lane

This vacant shop premises in Leicester's Loseby Lane **(Picture 01)** once housed a business owned by Arthur Lochhead **(Picture 02),** a star Leicester City player and manager in the 1920s and 1930s.





At the beginning of the 1925/26 season, Leicester City's manager Peter Hodge **(Picture 03),** having just guided Leicester City to the Second Division title, was anxious to strengthen his side now that his team was in the top division.

In October 1925, with his Leicester City side struggling in the top flight, Hodge signed Manchester United's inside-right Arthur Lochhead.

Born in Renfrewshire in 1897, Arthur had joined Heart of Midlothian in 1917. A Scotland international triallist, he moved to Old Trafford in June 1921 but he was relegated with them from the top flight at the end of his first season.

Three years later he was in the Manchester United team, which was promoted as back to the old First Division as runners-up behind this Leicester City team. **(Picture 04)**

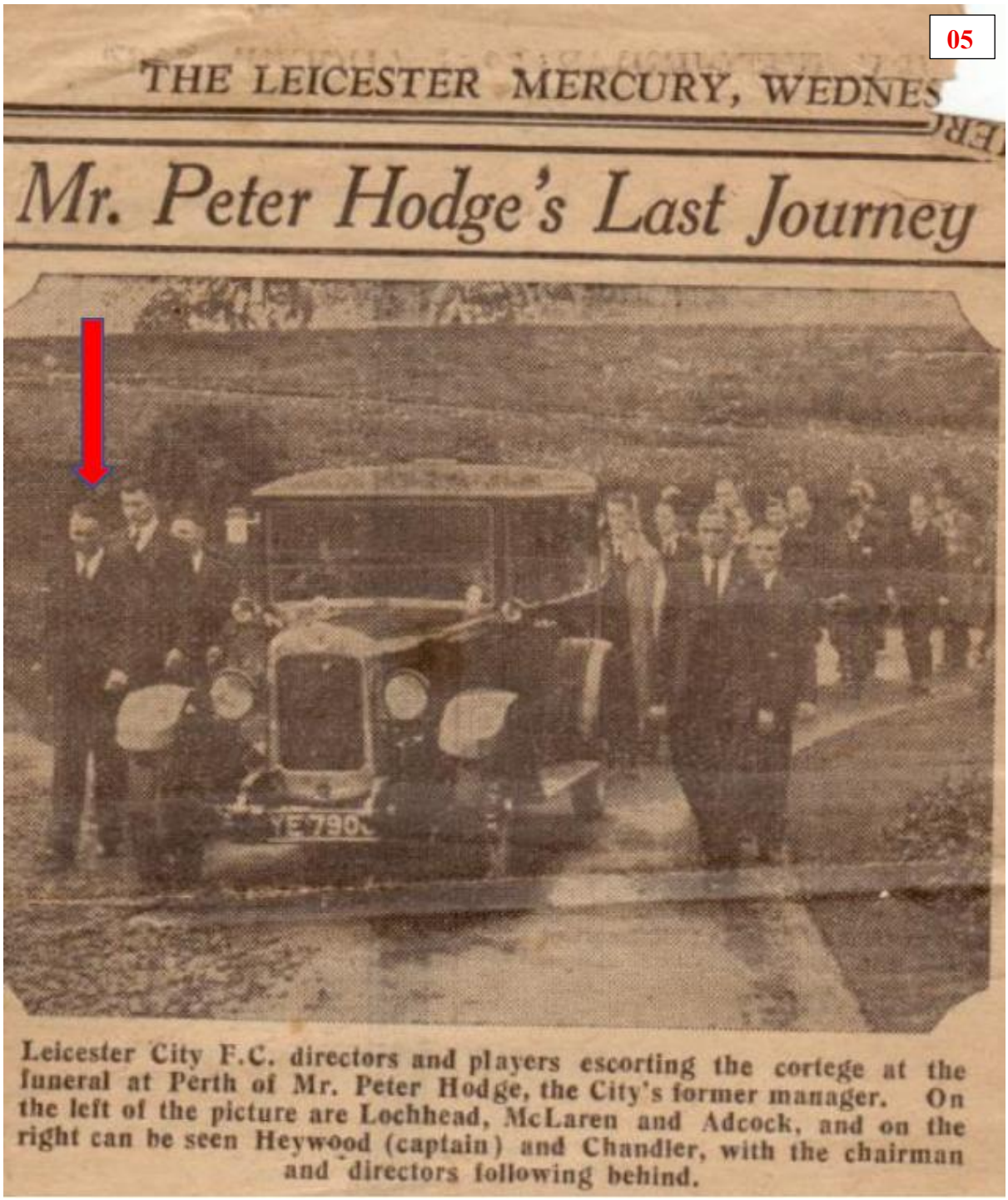
Whilst in Manchester, Arthur trained to be a teacher, but he still managed to score 50 goals in his 153 appearances.

His time at Leicester was incredibly successful. He scored twice on his debut, in a 3-0 home victory over West Bromwich Albion. He went on to play 320 games for the Club. All of his league games for Leicester City were in the old First Division. Only five players in Leicester City's entire history have scored more than his total of 114 goals for the Club.

He was a major playmaker and goalscorer in the Leicester City sides which finished third and second in the old First Division in 1928 and 1929. In 2002, Leicester City's England international Sep Smith, then in his nineties, told us that Lochhead was the best player he had ever played with.

When manager Peter Hodge suddenly died in the 1934 close season Arthur was one of the pall bearers **(Picture 05)** at his funeral in Perth. Such was his standing at the Club that the Directors persuaded him to retire from playing and become Peter Hodge's successor. He agreed and was

appointed as the new manager on 17 October of 1934, nine years to the day after he had made his Leicester City debut.



Two years earlier, whilst still playing, Arthur had gone into business with his brother. The Trade Directories in the Public Record Office at Wigston indicate that in 1932, they opened a radio, music and record shop at 7 Loseby Lane in the centre of Leicester, near to the present day St Martin's Square and the Lanes Shopping area. The premises had previously been a pram shop.

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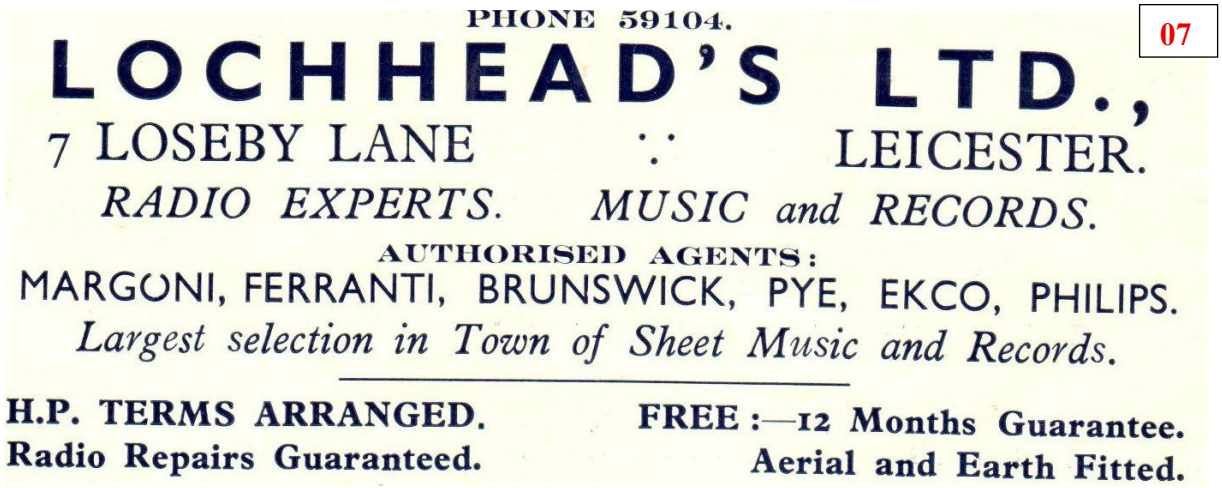
In the season that Arthur became manager, the Club marked its Golden Jubilee by publishing a commemorative Jubilee Souvenir book **(Picture 06).** This included an advertisement **(Picture 07)** for the Lochhead brothers' business, which had two elements. They were radio experts and sellers of music and records.



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PHONE 59104.

LOCHHEAD'S LTD.,

7 LOSEBY LANE ∴ LEICESTER.

RADIO EXPERTS. MUSIC and RECORDS.

AUTHORISED AGENTS:

MARGONI, FERRANTI, BRUNSWICK, PYE, EKCO, PHILIPS.

Largest selection in Town of Sheet Music and Records.

H.P. TERMS ARRANGED.
Radio Repairs Guaranteed.

FREE :—12 Months Guarantee.
Aerial and Earth Fitted.

The Lochheads were the authorized agents of the major radio brands of the day, namely Marconi, Ferranti, Brunswick, Pye, Ekco and Philips. The shop offered Hire Purchase terms for any radio purchase, which all carried a 12 month guarantee, They also provided a service to fit radio aerials as well as a guaranteed repair service. This was all cutting edge technology in the 1930s.

The shop also claimed to have Leicester's largest selection of sheet music and records.

Four years after opening the business, Arthur resigned as Leicester City's manager against a background of Board Room dissent. He returned to Scotland to become a publican first near Kelso and then in Musselburgh.

Today the premises, which housed an established hairdressing salon until it closed due to the pandemic, now stands vacant.