



Sheffield-born Chris Beaumont came late to professional football. Upon leaving school he became an accountant's clerk in Dronfield and played local amateur football, before being taken on by the Sheffield club and later Denaby United. Simon Bergara was a team-mate at Denaby; his father, Danny, became Manager of Rochdale, and remembered Chris from his spell as manager at the Sheffield club. Having taken him into the League at Dale in 1988 at the age of 22, Bergara took him

to Stockport a year later, where his career really took off. Much of his Stockport career was spent on the wings, supporting such players as Kevin Francis and Andy Preece, but he also figured in midfield and, occasionally, at right-back. Chris made in excess of 250 League appearances for The Hatters, scoring 39 times.

Chris had been on John Duncan's wanted list for some time, and got him in July 1996 for a £22,500 fee. He took a while to settle in at Saltergate, but came to have a great influence as the team mounted its epic run to the semi-finals of the F.A. Cup, capping an excellent performance in the sixth round against Wrexham with the game's only goal, a deft lob into the Kop end net after finding the presence to force his way between an uncertain defender and the over-committed Wrexham goalie. In the first semi-final, it was Chris's cross that Jamie Hewitt headed into the net for the game's dramatic equaliser.

Despite his speciality on the wing, most of Chris's time at Chesterfield was spent as a utility player, filling various positions in defence and midfield. While this probably restricted Chris's opportunities to establish a firm place, it may have broadened his appeal to the manager and he performed this role with wholehearted determination.

Chris stepped back into non-league football upon his release by the Spireites in 2001, serving Ossett Town and the Sheffield Club while running a Sheffield post office. In 2009 Chris became a pastor and later Head of Year 11, at the Newfield School in Sheffield.

For Chesterfield: 132 + 26 Football League appearances, 6 goals.

Career: 401 + 49 Football League appearances, 52 goals.