



Bob Newton turned pro with Huddersfield Town after coming through their youth ranks, in 1973. He joined Hartlepool United in 1977 and scored 48 times in 150 League starts before Port Vale took him for the 1982-3 season. His 22 goals in 48 appearances went a long way to assuring promotion from Division Four for Vale in 1983.

A much-loved character in Spireite folklore, this fearless, barrel-chested

forward dominated opponents with his powerful play in Chesterfield's 1984-5 Fourth Division championship season. Strong in the air, his almost unstoppable momentum carried him straight through defences; his talents perfectly complimented those of Phil Brown and Ernie Moss, his forward partners in that successful side. His arrival constituted excellent business on John Duncan's part, since it brought Bob and £8,000 to the club in exchange for the less effective Martin Henderson.

The club didn't try hard enough to keep Bob, though, and - for the second time after helping a side to get out of the Fourth - he returned to that division, re-joining Hartlepool for better wages. In the event, the extra bounce probably wasn't much consolation: he hardly featured at the Victoria Ground, second time around, and was on the verge of a return to Chesterfield as a non-contract player when Bristol Rovers offered him a short-term deal in February, 1987.

Bob left League football behind in the summer of 1987, travelling to places from Hong Kong to Alfreton for a game of football. Retirement finally came calling in the early 1990s.

A big-hearted, open and friendly man, Bob's ebullient character is still seen regularly around Chesterfield FC, where his son Lee was a trainee. He clearly loves his home-town club and has contributed to its survival as a member of the Chesterfield Football Supporters Society, but he should perhaps best be remembered for his commitment to charitable causes that included cycling marathons to far-flung places all over Europe. After football Bob found employment as a long distance lorry driver.

For Chesterfield: 78 Football League appearances, 29 goals.

Career: 334 + 9 Football League appearances, 109 goals.