

## No.17 Bertram Smart

He had been born in Hednesford, 15 April 1890 and, following games for Hednesford St. Mary's in the local Church and Chapel league, Bert Smart joined Hednesford Town in 1908.

Bert's performances over the next four years led Wolves to come knocking and he was transferred to them in 1912.

Operating from his left-back position, Bert made only three first-team appearances at Wolves before moving out of League Football to our local rivals Cannock Town immediately prior to World War One.

During that tragic period (1914-18) the very strong Hednesford Collieries team gave the local population something to cheer about. Bert was a member of that team along with a number of former players who had moved on to Football League clubs but were now only too glad of a game. Wolves' Tosh Griffiths, Villa's Tom Lyons, Sunderland's Charlie Crossley and other former 'Whites'.

Bert would also be a member of our 1919-20 English Cup (later named the FA Cup) team which reached the first round proper. It would be another 77 years before Hednesford Town would do that again. Bert died in 1959.



Bert, seated extreme left, with his Hednesford Collieries teammates in 1919-20.



