No.20 Arthur Potts

Born in Cannock, 26 May 1888, Arthur broke into the Hednesford Town team in 1910, following our Birmingham Combination Championship win a few months earlier and made his debut, at inside-right, against Birmingham Trams 1 September 1910.

Just one month after his first match, Arthur was injured in a game against Walsall and following his hospital treatment (with financial help from the club), his career did not pick up again until much later in the season.

By 1912, Arthur was with Willenhall Swifts, before joining Manchester United the following season. He made six appearances in that first year; 17 games the next season brought four goals. However, it was not until 1919 (at the end of the First World War) that he played again; still with United, he played just four more games before his £100 transfer to Second Division Wolves, scoring on his debut at home to Bury 11 September 1920.

Arthur played in 28 games that first season and scored nine goals; he was a member of their 1920-21 FA Cup final team, which lost 1-0 to Tottenham Hotspur on a soggy Stamford Bridge pitch. Former Hednesford Town goalkeeper Noel George was also a member of that Wolves team.

Due to injury in his second season, Arthur managed only seven League appearances, and seven FA Cup games, before his move to Walsall in 1922. With only one outing in their Third Division North side, Arthur was moved out to non-league Bloxwich Strollers in 1923, then to Dudley and finally to Red White & Blue (Wolverhampton) prior to his retirement.

Arthur played 71 senior League Football games and scored 15 goals. He died in 1981.

Arthur sits second from the right with his Wolves teammates in 1920-21. Wolves' goalkeeper, Noel George, was previously Arthur's teammate at Hednesford Town.

From the Dave Shaw archive.