

No.51 Horace Talbot

Horace, or 'Ozzer' as he was known to friends and football fans in the Chase area, was one of four footballing brothers, all of whom were born in Hednesford:

Oldest brother, Alec, moved from Hednesford Town to Villa in 1923 to spend the next 12-years at Villa Park; Les, or 'Leggy' to his mates, headed north to Blackburn Rovers, then Cardiff and Walsall; Ray was coming-on in leaps and bounds at the centre of our defence in 1932/33 when a workplace accident seriously damaged an arm and surgeons, considering the injury inoperable, amputated the limb in February 1934. A sad end to a promising career.

Fortunately, Horace retained all of his limbs, but that was not enough to take him into Villa's first-team squad and, having joined his brother Alec at Villa Park in 1932, he moved back to the Chase to play for Cannock in 1934.

The national newspapers tell us that in the early 1930's; Hednesford Town Football Club had sent more players into League Football than any other club in England. In 1938, that record was broken by Worksop Town, due perhaps to the fact that it had a larger population to draw upon.

