

## No.76 Norman Lawson

Versatile outside-left Norman Lawson spent his national service in the RAF at the same time as local boy Gordon Lee; they were probably stationed at RAF Hednesford in Brindley Heath; they definitely played alongside one another on the left-side of our forward-line in the mid 1950s.

Norman, born in Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear, 6 April 1935, played the first of his twelve games for us, 12 March 1955, in a 1-0 home win against Shrewsbury, in the closing months of the 1954-55 season.

Joining Bury, 1 September 1955, he immediately jumped into their Second Division side to score five goals in 25 senior appearances during the 1955-56 campaign; managing only 14 outings in the following season, as Bury was hit by relegation to the Third Division North. However, his 18 games in 1957-58 helped Bury to promotion back to the country's second tier at the first attempt.

Norman kicked-off the 1958-59 season wearing the white shirt of Swansea, having signed for them for a £4,000 fee, 1 July 1958. The Welsh club ended both of the next two seasons in a mid-table position, and with Norman given only 24 first-team games during those campaigns, he was shipped-out to Third Division Watford, 1 July 1960, where he appeared in their very first League Cup match.

Ending his Football League career at this point, with 82 senior games in all competitions, Norman moved into non-league football via Kettering Town to Hereford United in July 1963. In July of the following year, he joined Merthyr Tydfil, finally becoming Ton Petre's player-manager.

On leaving the game, Norman established his own company, *Lawson Computers*, in Swansea.



Norman seated far right, with Bury in 1955.

